This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

+ *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.

+ *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.

+ *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.

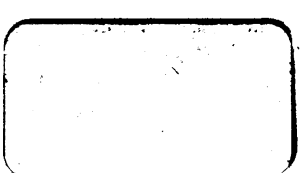
+ *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at `http://books.google.com/`

7620

The
Gordon Leister Ford
Collection
Presented by his Sons
Worthington Chauncey Ford
and
Paul Leicester Ford
to the
New York Public Library. 2/12/51



MEMOIRS

OF

THE LIFE AND CHARACTER

OF THE LATE

REV. GEORGE ATWELL.

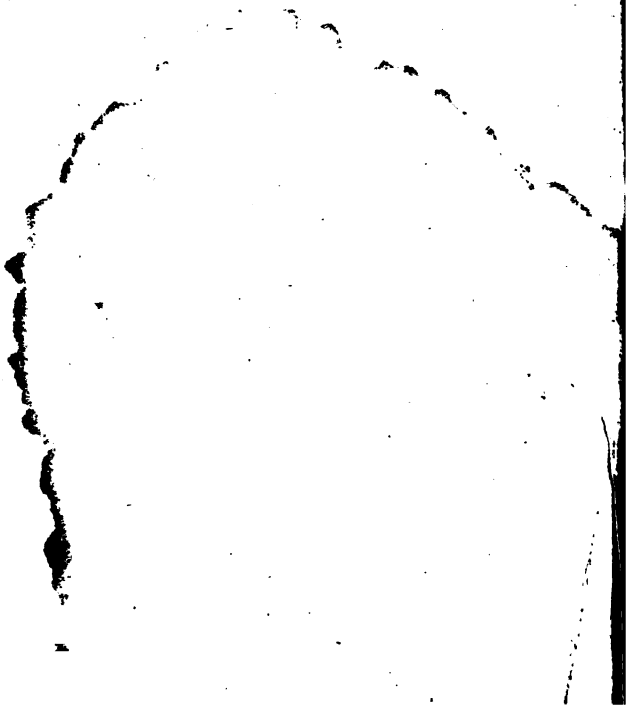
BY EZEKIEL TERRY.

How precious is the mem'ry of the just!
Tho' far away, and mould'ring in the dust;
Yet they are nigh, & their instructions live,
And long effectual admonitions give.

PALMER:

PRINTED BY EZEKIEL TERRY, 1815.

THE NEW YORK
PUBLIC LIBRARY
166665
ASTOR, LENOX AND
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS
1900.



PREFACE.

THE writer of these sheets, is not insensible of the critical situation in which he is placed, in undertaking to lay before the public, the memoirs of a character, like that of the late Rev. Mr. Atwell. He was beloved in a large circle of friends, whose feelings will not be a little wounded, by the least injustice to his precious memory: and he had also enemies, who neither will suffer an exaggeration of his reputation to go undetected, and unpunished.

We design to give no improper coloring to any thing in the course of this work; being fully satisfied with fairly representing every particular in its native dress, and are happy in being fully assured that no danger exists in so doing.

The long and happy connection uninterruptedly had with our beloved deceased friend, we think will be an incentive to publish every important fact. Much pains has been taken to collect every thing material; and we are gratified in being successful in a good degree: but we should have been pleased, however, in having obtained some further light on some particular points, but clouds of difficulty intervened.

What is here presented to publick view, we think will have a tendency to inspire the minds of the children of God to holy emulation: not only the love of a departed brother in the ministry, but the great object of the

divine glory, in stirring up the pure minds of God's dear people, moves us to write; and if the Reader is hereby excited to walk with God, the most desired object is obtained.

The reader here may have a view of a peculiar scene of troubles, and how God can support the soul in the midst of the furnace of affliction. Trouble pursued our friend from early life unto the grave; but the grace of God was sufficient for him. In his worldly affairs he was peculiarly unfortunate, and the only prosperity designed for him, appeared to be in the kingdom of Christ. His labors were abundantly blessed, and many souls were brought home to Christ under his ministry. But in preaching Christ he had much to encounter; his success raised up many formidable enemies against him, and he found no resting place on earth. But a few appear to have given themselves up, in the great work of preaching the gospel of Christ, as he did, and it may be said, that he litterally wore himself out, in the service of his blessed Lord and Master.

E. TERRY.

Palmer Nov. 18, 1814.

MEMOIRS, &c.

GEORGE ATWELL was born in Montville, in the state of Connecticut, on the 8th of September, in the year of our Lord, 1766. He was the first son, and second child, of Mr. Benjamin Atwell, a respectable inhabitant of the above place.

He early discovered a disposition for erudition, and soon became an excellent scholar of his age.

His natural disposition was airy, yet humane and benevolent. His company was much courted by his youthful companions; and he was generally at the head of their balls, parties, &c. Thus the early part of his youth was spent in those vain pursuits, which generally attract the attention of giddy youth. But many things occurred which made him thought-

ful, and often excited some stings of conscience.

He commenced the employment of school-keeping at an early period of life; and during that time it pleased God to awaken him with a true sense of his lost condition. His distress during his conviction was very great, until light sprung up in his soul. His mind which was before wholly engrossed with the vanities of the world, became now the reverse, and his ways were changed: religion was his delight and study. In conferences, and else where, he would speak freely of the things of the kingdom. In conference meetings he was much depended upon to pray, exhort, and sing; and now instead of going to parties of pleasure, he was warning others to give over their sinful courses, and turn to God.

April 3d, 1788, he married Miss Esther Rogers of New London: he then commenced business in the merchantile line; but the chain of misfortunes which afterwards ever attached to his life, appeared now to begin. He purchased a large quantity of beef, and went to New York to make sale of it; but being detained longer than he expected, and having unprincipled enemies at home, they intimated that he was a bankrupt, and his creditors growing uneasy under this suspicion, seized on all his effects in his absence. This reduced him at once to such a state of in-

solvency, as he never was able to extricate himself from. This was a severe trial to him and his wife. But, to add to their distress, their infant child was burnt to a shocking degree: the circumstance was as follows; it being the month of December, the babe was sitting in a cradle by the fire, but gat out, and fell backward into the devouring element. It lay in that situation until its cries alarmed its father, who was in a distant apartment; he snatched his son from the fire, and called its mother who was employed in the concerns of the family in another part of the house. A physician was called, but he gave it as his opinion that the child could not continue long.

To further augment the distress of this afflicted family, Mr. Atwell was on that fatal day hurried away to prison for debt, and left his home in the midst of trouble and sorrow.

After his release from jail he endeavored to regulate his affairs; but being imprisoned again, he soon began to feel the full weight of his misfortunes.

Being embarassed and perplexed, he went to sea to avoid being further harassed by his creditors. In the course of the voyage his mind was in a constant state of purturbation about his family, his circumstances, &c. As they lay off the West India Islands at anchor, a long boat from an English man of war, was seen coming

towards them, manned with sixteen robust men: he was the only man on deck: when they came along side, without any preamble they boarded, and insolently demanded the shipping bill, and behaved like scoundrels towards the crew: they cruelly abused the second mate, and the boatswain, both of whom they impressed. Mr. Atwell refusing to obey these villians, they made an attempt to seize and bind him, but he disengaged himself from them, and getting upon the forecastle, defended himself with a handspike: they seeing his resolution, and some of them being soundly bruised by our hero, soon left the ship: the others of the ship's crew, left him to shift for himself, without offering him any assistance. On their return home they were overtaken by a tremendous storm, which cast them upon the rocks, and reduced them to the most imminent danger. Through the many hardships and dangers which he encountered at sea, he shewed extraordinary presence of mind, and firmness of soul, which was ever a peculiar excellence in him.

When he returned home he found his family in indigence and affliction: the child was in a miserable condition in consequence of the burn it had received. One of his creditors, not knowing of his return, came into the house and abused his wife with insolent language, upbraiding her of her poverty; on his hearing

this, he burst into the room, and without common formalities, hurled him into the street. From this time this unfeeling man exerted himself to the utmost to injure him, and he too often succeeded.

Thus trials and tribulations pursued him, and he moved from place to place with a heavy load at his heart.

At Lyme he commenced a mechanical life for the support of his family, and succeeded to a comfortable living. It was in this place that his misfortunes were blessed in a holy revival in his soul. He found that it was good to be afflicted, and sought a rest in the God of his salvation. He renewed his covenant with the Lord his portion, and engaged to bear the hallowed cross of Jesus his Christ, and precious Savior. His mind was led into the principles of the Baptist Denomination, and with them in covenant love he was numbered and united. His zeal in the precious cause of the Redeemer soon became conspicuous, and he was a great blessing in the church of Christ.

He now had it powerfully impressed on his mind to undertake the important work of an evangelist, in preaching salvation to dying men. The call was so effectually brought home to his understanding, that he was convinced of his duty. But how to surmount the many and prominent difficulties which appeared in his way, he knew not. He endeavored to the ut-

most to discover some excuse for himself, but to no purpose. It appeared to him as though he could not engage in a calling so holy and solemn; and the trials he experienced on the subject, were more than he ever could express. He at length, as oppertunities offered, began with great diffidence, the blessed avocation of publishing the glad tidings of peace from heaven, and the blessing of God attended his labors; sinners were awakened, and saints were comforted. An effectual door was opened for his ministry, and it was clearly evident, that the Lord had sent him, as a laborer, into his harvest. His soul enlarged in the knowledge of God, and affection for the cause of Christ, and his greatest joy was in the diffusion of the principles of the doctrine of Christ, and in the prosperity of Zion.

The church to which he belonged, and others where his labors extended, being fully satisfied of his lot in Zion, conceived it their duty, solemnly by fasting and prayer, to set him apart, in the imposition of hands, for the work in which he had begun to display his talents and grace under the auspicies of heaven. A council was accordingly invited and convened, and according to the usages of the Baptists, he was ordained as an evangelist, and thus in the fellowship of the churches, *settled in the work of the gospel ministry.* His ordination was according to primitive practice,

in the work; not limited to any precinct; but to go forth and preach the gospel to every creature where ever the voice of God should direct.

He now faithfully gave up himself as a servant to the church, and with great dedication, preached the gospel of Christ the power of God unto salvation. He magnified his office in the humility of his soul; and considered his greatness consisted in that lowliness of heart, which lead the Savior of the world to wash his disciples' feet.

The shafts of the enemy were now hurled at him with redoubled fury. His insolvency was argued as being a fatal objection to his ministry; and it was maliciously said, that a banckrupt never should preach, until his creditors had their demands secured. We acknowledge that cases of banckruptcy may exist, in which a man can never be called to preach; but the insolvency of our friend was an exception: there appeared to be no dishonesty in him; and his delinquency was in his miscalculation, and not design: yet, for all that ever has appeared, had it not been for a dastardly suspicion, and hasty unrelenting prosecution, he might have succeeded and been prosperous in the affairs of this life. The turn of his fortune had sunk him so deep in arrears, as that he could discover no possibility of paying his debts, and the more he endeavored to ex-

tricate himself, the deeper he sunk im the horrible pit. The frowns of providence on his worldly concerns, go rather to convince that he was not in the lot assigned him in the purposes of God; and when we view his success in the ministry, we fully believe he was called of God as was Aaron, to the work in which he was ordained.

The Lord, it seems, deemed it not only necessary to blast all his prosperity in the treasures of this world, but to give him a thorn in the flesh to continue for life: from not far from the time of his commencing preaching the word, he was subject to spasmodic fits, which he was subject unto until his death; and they often were extremely distressing, and dangerous. As the cause of this complaint, has been very unfairly represented, by some of those who were but slightly under the dominion of truth, the true origin is here given. Having been to the place of his nativity to preach at the house of his father, he there received a severe kick from a horse, which came nigh to the ending of his days: but, though he lived, yet ever from that time distressing paroxysms would afflict him. This was the true source of his disorder.

He continued to dispense the word of life with various success, and with a great variety of feelings, until he received a call to remove to Saybrook, and labor with the church in that place. The glory of God, and the circumstances of his family

were carefully considered by him, and from a view of the prospect before him, he was inclined to believe the call was from God, and he resolved to go. Accordingly on the 5th of November, 1802, he moved his family to a place provided for him.

On the next Lord's day he preached to the people, and it was a solemn time. At conference at his house in the evening, he enjoyed the presence of God, so that with Paul, he thanked God and took courage. Nothing very special took place with him during the week. The second sabbath was communion day, and he preached with great freedom and enlargement of soul: he was much ravished with looking at, and preaching the things unseen, and at communion he ventured to say *"I deem we draw near some land."* At conference in the evening two were struck under conviction, and the power of God was evidently felt, and realized by many present. His mind now began to labor, and his soul to travail to that degree he never had felt before.

On tuesday evening prayer meeting was held at his house; at which time he felt uncommon travail for souls, and a heavenly meeting it was to him, and he cried out, "Blessed be God. O wonderous grace that I should be a christian."

On wednesday he was in a heavenly frame of mind, and at evening God met

with his soul at meeting: he said, he felt and anticipated heavenly glory; and cried out, "Blessed Jesus, roll on thy goodness, and waft my soul to heaven."

On saturday he rode to N— B— with his soul happy in God.

O how happy are they,
Who the Savior obey.

On sunday he preached with heart union to truth, love to God, and his soul travailing for sinners, and said, "O how blessed and glorious it is to preach Jesus a crucified Savior." He returned at evening to conference, and his soul appeared to catch the heavenly flame of unmingled love, and was in raptures; and heaven ravished his heart.

On monday the heavenly flame still continued to burn in his breast, which he believed destroyed some of his hay wood and stubble; and he cried out, "O blessed Jesus burn up the whole, and never let my heart wander from thy fold again. How sweet are the joys which Jesus brings." This day he visited and prayed with two sick friends with much pleasure.

On tuesday he enjoyed much peace in meditating on the growing prosperity of the church. At night he was seized with a violent distress at his vitals, with signs of an inflamation, but by the goodness of God found relief by bleeding and physic, but lingered some days: his soul was happy in God, and his mind bent on the prosperity of Zion.

Thursday was thanksgiving day, on which he observed, "I felt my heart truly enlarged—looked back on the year past—was surprised at my stupidity — God has bestowed innumerable blessings — O my ungrateful heart, love Jesus more.

Here Lord I give myself away,
'Tis all that I can do.

Lord help me to do it unreservedly. I was unable to attend public worship, but my heart prayed for Zion."

On sunday he was unable to preach: in the evening conference was at his house, and he felt much engaged; but soon a cloud overwhelmned his soul, and continued for a number of days.

On sunday he preached, and experienced great joy in describing the saints' beloved; in distinguishing between the world's and saints' beloved; and in describing the church to be the joy of all the earth, and the beautiful situation, far beyond any city on earth.

On tuesday evening he preached with great ardor, in pointing his hearers to the crown of life, and in exhorting to faithfulness.

On wednesday evening he preached, of which he says, "O how happy I was in commending the excellency of the knowledge of Jesus Christ. I felt then to count all things but loss for the blessedness I then felt in my soul, and preached to others. O Jesus help me not only to preach, but to live Christ, and die to my gain."

On thursday conference was at his house, and with great satisfaction he engaged his brethren to continue walking with God.

On friday evening he preached, and his soul was happy in describing his Master like fire and soap.

On saturday was covenant meeting; he was happy in God, and had the joy of receiving two members into union.

December 12th, on sunday, he preached with peculiar satisfaction, and he says, "O! how was my soul swallowed up in the love of God in shewing what signs and wonders God had wrought for his people. I had the great satisfaction to baptize two, and broke bread to my brethren with a heavenly rapture on my soul. O Jesus may such sealing seasons never be forgotten by me; here's my heart O take and seal it."

On wednesday he preached at Haddam, without much assistance; and again in the evening to a crowded and solemn assembly. Praise waits in Zion, Lord, for thee.

On thursday he preached at Chester, and shewed the people that he was not ashamed of the gospel of Christ. In the evening he preached again, and says, "I found much sweetness of soul in describing the little gleaner. Blessed Jesus, may my soul always glean in thine eternal promises."

On friday he observes, "I find great sat-

isfaction in my weak state to try to persuade men to love Jesus. With much fainting and weakness at my vitals, I am so low, that many of my friends advise me not to preach so much; but my heart is strong in God; am willing to spend and be spent for him. Jesus, help me to be faithful and win souls to thee; to spend my time wholely and unreservedly to thy glory. May my soul be in covenant with truth."

On saturday he says, "I had sweet meditation on the word, with preparation for the sabbath."

On sunday he preached; in the forenoon with a great cloud on his mind; but in the afternoon with freedom; earnestly persuading the people not to resist the spirit of God. He observes, "I felt peculiar pleasure in recommending religion, and heart holiness to my audience; O that God may set it home on the heart. In the evening at conference I was very comfortable in my mind, and tried to comfort my brethren, and to help sinners to seek Christ. Roll on thy undesturbed decrees, and bring my soul to glory, into those joys I have of late anticipated, where is nothing to defile. Blessed Jesus, hasten that day when I shall be with thee, in the paradise of heavenly glory."

December 20th, on monday, he was very happy in conversation with friends; particularly with a young woman under

much anxiety about a peculiar dream.

Tuesday evening he spent with the person above mentioned, gave her counsel in her trouble, found great freedom in conversation, and obtained help from God in prayer. He observes, "O that I may ever be ready to every good word and work. Lord, may I always be ready to teach men the way to Christ. It is now a late hour; I must retire to rest. My disorder is such that many friends advise me not to preach so frequently; but the language of my heart is, the will of the Lord be done, come life or come death, Amen."

On wednesday he visited his friends at P—— point, and preached to a very solemn assembly, and his soul was happy in inviting his hearers to come and see the beauties of the Savior; and he took great pleasure in shewing the obstructions, and how they may be removed.

On thursday morning he visited and prayed with two sick friends, and says, "My soul was very happy in God; that season I believe will not be forgotten by me soon; may God seal it to my soul. O blessed God, may I live near to thee, for my soul knows there is no happiness in any other. Returned home and spent this evening in conference with pleasure; blessed be God."

Friday, 24th, he awoke this morning at four o'clock, with a violent pain in his head and breast. A physician was called,

and medicine was blessed for his relief. He observes, "My mind was beclouded without any sensible enjoyment of religion; but was somewhat happy in joining with my wife in prayer to God. O that the Lord would come and take full possession of my soul, and drive the clouds away."

Saturday, 25th, he was still weak, but rather better. He says, "This day is christmas; O that it may be a day of glad tidings to my soul. May my heart lament that I have done no more for that Being who has done so much for me. This day felt such enjoyment of God that my soul cried out, nature, nature, give way, that my soul may go to Jesus. Blessed, blessed be Jehovah.

Sunday, 26th, he was still weak and unable to preach in the forenoon; but in the afternoon, with much pain, he recommended holiness as the best good to his hearers, without which no man can see the Lord; and prayed that it might have the desired effect on their minds.

Monday, 27th, he arose this morning at four o'clock, and wrote some directions to a young person, how to spend her time, and how to secure the welfare of the soul. In the evening the Lord sent seven brethren and sisters to meet at his house; and being met in Jesus' name, the promise was fulfilled. He observes, "Such a season my soul never saw before. God bowed his heavens and came down and met with

our souls; glory to his name. I believe the angels of God were present and joined with us in singing an hymn entitled, Joy in the Holy Ghost. Awake, awake, utter a song; arise and lead captivity captive. My heart is toward the governors of Israel, who offer themselves willingly among the people. Bless the Lord, O my soul."

Tuesday, 28th, he says, "My bodily strength is returning slowly, God be praised; may spiritual strength be restored."

On thursday he attended conference, and was very happy in his mind; he spake of the joy of his soul to his brethren, and endeavored to renewedly engage them in the service of God. He prayed to be strengthened to be faithful; that he might not only encourage his brethren by words, but by a daily life of piety.

Friday, December 31st, he observes, "This day closes the year 1802; O wonderful that I should be spared to live to the close of another year, while so many have been called away by death! I have reason to blush and be ashamed, that I have done no more for God. Can I justify myself for all my life the year past? No! every deed, word and action, needs a pardon from heaven. O how much of my services have been from selfish motives! Lord pardon me."

We now shall give a considerable lengthy extract from his diary, with as little correction as shall be admissible.

"January 1st, 1803: this day is New-Year, O that it may be with new light, and new love to my soul; but my mind is much in darkness; Lord lift upon me the light of thy countenance, and make my soul happy in thee. This evening was happy in meeting at my house; blessed be God. O my Lord help me to dedicate my all to thee without any reserve; nothing will satisfy my soul but thy love; deny me not that blessing. If thou sparest me this year, help, and I will be thine in obedience.

"January 2d, this day is sabbath, and the people expect me to preach to them. Lord, I cannot if thou dost not help. To preach the gospel is a great work; O the greatness of it! who is sufficient therefor? Thou, Lord, canst make the worm Jacob thresh mountains. This day preached, and took great pleasure in persuading my hearers not to put off the salvation of their souls for a more convenient season.

"Monday, tuesday and wednesday, felt a calmness in my mind, and was very happy in meeting on tuesday evening.

"Thursday, was called upon to marry a couple, and rode to Chester to meeting and preached, but without much assistance.

"Friday, this day I spent in visiting the people, with great pleasure, and endeavored to comfort the minds of my friends, and convince them of the reality

of religion: — conversed with a young man under conviction and an inquiring mind.

"Saturday, January 8th, on this day is covenant meeting; my mind not very fruitful; exercised with much bodily pain and weakness, but felt my heart much warmed in receiving three members to our fellowship. O blessed God add many more, bless thy little Zion in this place, and add to their graces as well as number. To-morrow I am desired to administer baptism to those three, but my bodily weakness and pain is great. Lord strengthen me. This evening, prayer meeting at my house, but I could not attend to any exercise with my brethren.

"Sunday, 9th, this day I preached with some good degree of help from God. My mind was much bent on inviting sinners to beware of the stone falling on them, and encouraged them to fall on the stone and be broken. I had the happiness to administer baptism on the three received yesterday into fellowship, and they joined the church. My soul was happy at communion, praised be God: O how blessed a thing to hold communion with God through Jesus Christ. This evening was happy at conference. O the rapture of my soul, to see any concerned for their souls! O WONDEROUS that God should revive the cause of Jesus in this place! O what a miracle that any should be born again!

"Monday, I felt happy in my mind in inviting souls to Jesus. This evening, prayer meeting at my house, and Jesus drew near to us.

"Tuesday, this morning awoke with meditations on God's word, and some desire for the good of souls, especially for a person that lodged at my house, in great distress of mind; and in family prayer this morning, God was pleased to comfort our hearts in a surprising manner: blessed be his name. This evening rode to Chester and preached to a crowded and solemn assembly. many minds were inquiring the way to find Jesus. O blessed God, make a thorough work, and convert all Saybrook to the faith of the gospel of Jesus.

"Thursday, at meeting, was much in the dark at the beginning, but happy at the close. My mind is engaged for Zion's good.

"Friday, this morning was happy in secret prayer to God. My heart is toward them that love God in truth.

"Saturday, 15th, spent this morning in conversation with friends about the bondage of Israel in Egypt, and the afternoon in visiting a sick friend, and found great pleasure in conversation and prayer. Some meditation on the word, and a little union with truth, and was happy at prayer meeting this night. O that God may bless the people of this land, and rain down righteousness.

"Sunday, 16th, still my mind much engaged for the prosperity of the church. O blessed God, may thy goodness draw all the people to thee. Felt happy in my mind, and preached with a degree of love in my heart, and zeal for the good of souls, and my mind engaged to persuade the people to sow to the spirit, and gained some hope that God would bless the word to their eternal good. In the afternoon spake of the sufferings of Christ with great satisfaction and some enlargement. Blessed be God, the weather is remarkably good, and the people flock to meeting, and many hungry souls which want food. Returned home from meeting, and found my wife very happy in God, and two of my children much engaged for religion. Was very happy in family prayer :— a blessed meeting when Christ meets with my soul. I have often said this and that day were good days to me, and so they really were, but this day was peculiarly so. O blessed Jesus, may thy goodness lead me to repentance. This evening was happy at meeting, but before I went I gained an evidence that some one would be born into Christ's kingdom ; and I had the pleasure of conversing with a young man on the deliverance of his soul ; and when I returned home I was charmed with my wife's relating how happy she was in joining with my son, nine years old, in prayer; and that little boy prayed, she said, like an

angel. This evening received a letter from brother Darrow in Lyme, which gave me much joy in learning that God had begun to work in that place, and that six were brought into the covenant of grace.

"Monday, 17th, happy in meditation on God's word; rode to Chester and preached to a very crowded and solemn assembly; spent some time in conversing with a number of people under conviction, and went to a friend's house where were three of his children under strong conviction, and found great happiness in conversation with them.

"Tuesday, 18th, was very happy in meeting this evening, and my soul knows that I felt the life of religion; blessed be the God of Israel: was very happy to hear a man tell about God's dealings with him under the law; and he felt the power of conviction in a wonderful manner: and many others were mightily wrought upon by God's power: blessed God, convert their souls to the faith of Jesus.

"Wednesday, 19th, without much of God's special presence, but my heart panted after him.

"Thursday, 20th, in the morning at five o'clock, I had a son born; blessed be Jehovah. My mind labored much to dedicate this child, with my other children, to God. My soul was something happy in God at conference meeting this night,

and it was my desire to encourage sinners to seek the salvation of their souls; may God help them or they will perish.

"Friday, 21st, this morning my soul was happy in prayer; how blessed it is to draw near to God! — felt much of the presence of Jesus to day, blessed be God; was happy in visiting and conversing with friends about spiritual things, and labored to encourage one particular person to get religion. O how happy I was to hear a young person speak of the goodness of God, for the welfare of whose soul I had been especially anxious, and my pleasure was great to hear her tell how happy she was in God; Lord keep her in thy love.

"Saturday, 22d, this morning awoke with my soul happy, and my meditation was sweet: arose and found my wife happy in her mind and very comfortable in body. Prayer and praise were sweet this morning.

"Sunday, 23d, preached with great satisfaction and joy, and at conference was uncommonly happy: many under conviction, and some hopefully converted. O how did my soul travail for souls, and rejoice when they were brought to believe in Christ. This meeting was the most remarkable I ever saw; O blessed God, may my soul see many more such. Jesus, be pleased to keep these lambs in thy bosom. Returned home and retired at a late hour to rest, but slept but little and was very

happy in my soul. Blessed be the God of Zion. O may my soul strive to obtain to a greater degree of sanctification.

"Monday, 24th, was very comfortable in my mind, and had the joy this morning to converse with some apparently seeking religion, and encouraged them to be in earnest: visited and prayed with two sick friends; rode to Chester and preached to a very numerous assembly, and there appeared to be a great solemnity on their minds. My soul was very happy, I believe, in God; and my mind was much bent in encouraging the youth to put on the whole armour of God; and entered into covenant with some to continue instant in prayer; may God help us to keep the same.

"Tuesday, 25th, was happy in my mind; took great joy in visiting and praying with some under conviction: returned home and found my wife very happy, and was greatly rejoiced to hear what a blessed meeting they had at my house the evening before, and that my children prayed. This evening preached at P— to a crowded assembly: was very happy to find some under conviction: found two willing to covenant to pray: was not much at liberty in my mind; O God forgive my coldness.

"Wednesday, in the morning, two young women came to my lodgings, and confessed that they were wrong in their

behavior at meeting the night before, and appeared to be under some conviction. O blessed God, convert their souls to the gospel of Jesus.

"Thursday, this morning prayer and praise were made a great pleasure to my soul. Spent this day in visiting and praying with friends under conviction; my soul was very happy in God; my mind labored much to encourage sinners to strive to get religion. Preached this evening, but not very comfortable in my mind, yet labored much to encourage the people to know the joyful sound of the gospel.

"Friday, this day spent in conversation: first, with a man who was an Episcopalian in sentiment; our debate was warm, but to no good effect: second, visited some under conviction, and encouraged them to strive for pardon through Jesus: third, visited and prayed with sick friends. Spent this evening at meeting, but with no special enjoyment of the love of God in my soul. O blessed God, may I have grace to love thee more, pray more, and to glorify thee more.

"Saturday, 29th, my mind uncomfortable, but attended prayer meeting in the evening, and was much darkened all the meeting; but after the people were gone, at half after eleven, my wife arose with a spirit of prayer, and she and sister Hall prayed for me, and God heard them, and the cloud broke, and my soul was on the

wing: my cry was heard, and my soul was overshadowed with love and joy; and I had faith in my heart; blessed, blessed be the God of Abraham, may thy blessing and grace bring my soul to heaven.

"Sunday, 30th, this morning my mind labored much for right motives and spirit to attend God's worship: and my soul was wonderfully blessed in preaching; I felt in my soul that the word took effect in some heart:— was happy in family prayer, and particularly, for a young man under strong convictions, and gained some evidence that he experienced religion this night at my house. O how did my soul leap for joy to hear twelve young persons tell their experience this evening: three of them were the persons mentioned last sabbath evening. My God, keep them in thy name, that they may be pillars in thy house.

"Monday, 31st, this morning was comfortable in mind, and took very great satisfaction in family prayer; and at eleven o' clock a number of young persons came to my house to converse about religion, and two of them under conviction; and while they were there, one of them experienced a change of heart, and was very happy. This evening my wife was afflicted in her mind, and I felt a resolution to pray for her until she was blessed in her soul, and she obtained a wonderful blessing from God. My soul, be thou very thankful. I

was uncommonly happy in God this evening. O blessed God, may my soul still be happy, and may I continue in thy vineyard. O that I may win some to the faith of the gospel of Christ.

"Tuesday, February 1st, this morning my soul was very happy in prayer, and wonderfully enlarged. Blessed be God, may I have much of the spirit of Jesus: may I be kept by the power of God unto salvation.

"Wednesday, 2d, rode to Haddam and preached; with great pleasure encouraged the people to be faithful and win the crown; and my soul was happy in God at night in prayer meeting.

"Thursday, 3d, much engaged to encourage two young women under conviction to strive to get religion; and I continued very happy in my mind. Preached this evening at Chester, to a very crowded and solemn assembly; and spent the remainder of the evening in encouraging some young converts under clouds, and some others that were under conviction. Rested but little this night.

"Friday, 4th, this morning went from my lodgings to see a friend, and took breakfast, but was soon after seized with a violent distress at my vitals, with puking, and ague, which lasted most of the forenoon; but by the goodness of God was relieved so as to be able to ride some miles and preach in the afternoon, with some good

degree of help from the Lord. This meeting was at the request of a sick friend. I was still much unwell; and much fatigued with frequent labors (but with great pleasure) in God's vineyard. Human reason says that I shall soon wear out in so frequently preaching, but my soul says I cannot wear out in a better cause, or employment. This evening attended conference, and spake of the strait gate with great satisfaction; and had the pleasure to see many solemn minds, and some seeking religion; blessed be God. Returned home and had a very comfortable time in prayer with my family.

"Saturday, 5th, prayer and praise was a pleasure, and my mind comfortable and solemn. Much afflicted with the head ach, and can but just retain my mind.

"Sunday, 6th, this morning awoke with pain in my head, and find I am much unwell in body and mind; but some refreshed in prayer and praise. Labored under much bodily infirmities, and the rain prevented my preaching; but I went to the place of worship, and prayed. This evening still unwell, but very happy in soul in family prayer, and caught some of the flame of love; O blessed Jesus, may the fire burn up all the hay, wood and stubble.

"Monday, 7th, still a pain in my head; but stedfast in the principles of the gospel. O wise and mysterious plan of salvation by Jesus Christ. I am in a strait; I am to

preach this evening; may my God help me to preach Jesus; I know I am insufficient without help from God. O my soul, be thou humble, and rest on the God of Israel. Preached, and took great pleasure in describing the breast plate; and heard a number of young converts speak of the joy they had in believing: may Jesus keep them in the love of the truth: Lord, may these lambs of thine be borne in thy bosom.

"Tuesday, 8th, this day spent in visiting friends, especilly some under strong convictions; and encouraged them by exhorting them, praying with and for them. O my soul, what a day this was, to see so many stout men bowing under the weight of sin! Lord help them to strive with all their might to bring down the house. I never visited so many under conviction, in one day, before; God be praised. Returned home in the evening, and was greatly blessed in joining with my son, a boy nine years old, in prayer to God. Rested but little this night, being much unwell.

"Wednesday, 9th, in the afternoon preached at Killingsworth, with much joy to a solemn assembly, and spent the evening in conversation. My mind was refreshed, but my body was weak: when I had done preaching to-day, I could scarcely stand. Returned home at a late hour, and had but little rest.

"Thursday, 10th, a violent pain in my head, but my soul strong in God. O blessed Jesus, remove my bodily infirmity if it is thy good pleasure. I dare not ask that my labor be less, but that my strength may be equal to my day. I must go to Chester to preach this evening, and, O! the hungry souls that want food. Blessed God, wilt thou strengthen me this once, to feed thy sheep and lambs. Preached with great freedom and enlargement to a crowded and solemn assembly.

"Friday, 11th, spent this day in visiting and praying with friends: some under awakening, some under trials of mind; and was rejoiced to see so many engaged for religion. I think I may say, this is a pentecost indeed. Attended conference in the evening.

"Saturday, 12th, covenant meeting this day; and such a season the oldest member in this church never saw before. Two joined us this day; one of them was a son of mine, not ten years old; and my mind labored much to exercise right motives. At night went to prayer meeting, but was taken with a violent pain in my head, which obliged me to retire, and I was exercised with much pain through the night.

"Sunday, much unwell in the morning, but went to meeting, and requested elder Lester to preach; but before he began meeting God gave me a text, with an encouragement that I should find a blessing,

and so it was, for my soul never enjoyed such a season before. O blessed God, may I have many more such seasons. Was happy at conference, and it was a powerful time. When I returned home I found that at my house there had been a blessed time, a number of boys prayed wonderfully.

"Monday, 14, this morning was happy in prayer: took much satisfaction to hear four boys at my house pray for a young woman under conviction. O wonderous that God should thus incline these boys! Now these children are praying to God for a blessing to their souls; and each one says they cannot rise from their knees without a blessing. Jesus master, bless their souls and bring them to heaven.

"Tuesday, 15th. refreshed with a brother in the morning devotion: visited and prayed with a sick friend: attended meeting and spake to the people.

"Wednesday, 16th, visited and conversed: called on a friend that was in a very strange way; may that person recover and praise God.

"Thursday, 17th, met with some trials to-day, but went to Chester, and preached with great enlargement, and love to God and souls: took great satisfection in describing the love of God to the world, and the saint's love towards God.

"Friday, 18th, prayed with several families, visited, found some under convic-

tion, and returned home in the evening much fatigued, but dare not ask that my labors or trials be less, but that I may have strength to go through.

"Saturday, 19th, still a great trial on my mind, and so severe that it caused me much bodily pain. At night some brethren and sisters came to my house for prayer meeting, but my infirmity of body prevented my acting with them. I was much distressed.

"Sunday, 20th, still in much pain, but preached, with a great cloud over my mind, but with my heart stedfast; and encouraged my brethren to continue in well-doing.

"Monday, 21st, went to meeting with a greater trial on my mind than I ever tried to preach with. I attempted to preach, but in much darkness. Returned under a great cloud, and as much fatigued as I ever was sensible of.

"Tuesday, 22d, so tried that my body was greatly afflicted; O my hard heart! Jesus be pleased to remove this cloud, or give grace to support.

"Wednesday, 23d, still in the dark, and under trials, but rode to P—and preached in the afternoon, and in the evening.

"Thursday, 24th, returned home, and tarried two hours, and then went to Deep River and preached. The people were very solemn, and my mind something more at liberty, praised be God.

"Friday, 25th, my mind much engaged to overcome the world, flesh, and devil. This day went to the meeting house in Chester with an expectation to hear a Mr. Andrews, but he failing, I was called upon and preached. Then I rode to Turkey-hill and preached to a crowded assembly, and it was a very solemn time with the people, and many were under conviction: it was evident that God was at work in that place. I was much fatigued, and retired to rest at an early hour.

"Saturday, 26th, awoke with sweet meditation, and my mind comfortable; I arose and prayed, and proceeded to attend a funeral according to agreement yesterday: a presbyterian minister was present. I then rode to the baptist meeting house in Haddam, and attended preparatory meeting, and three members were added, and stand as candidates for baptism; I had a great labor of mind on account of my unworthiness, and was very unwell this evening; I retired to bed very uncomfortable and slept but little.

"Sunday, 27th, this morning much better in body, and prayed for God's presence to attend me this day, and was very happy in prayer, and all the forenoon: found two persons in great distress: preached and spake of the path of the just with great freedom: and then baptized the three persons received yesterday. I then preached again with enlargement

and freedom, and broke bread to the church. When I had got through I was so much spent that I requested my friends to shew me my lodgings as soon as possible; rode two miles, but after some refreshment, attended meeting in the court house, and heard Mr. W. preach, and retired.

"Monday, 28th, this morning my mind was not so much engaged as in some former seasons, but had some sweet meditation. This afternoon Mr. W. the presbyterian minister of the place, came to my lodgings, and we had a pleasing conversation. In the evening I preached in the court house to a large and solemn assembly, with great freedom.

"Tuesday, March 1st, journeyed for home, and in the evening preached at Chester with enlargement, and assured the people they were all stewards, and must give an account to God.

"Wednesday, 2d, reached home, and spent the evening with my family.

"Thursday, 3d, comfortable in prayer and praise this morning: engaged this day to get the better of my unruly temper, and made some promises, and determined to watch against satan's devices: attended conference and had the pleasure to hear a number of young converts speak of their joys and resolutions to serve God.

"Friday, 4th, my mind still solemn, and was very happy at conference this even-

ing; there were a number of young persons under conviction, and I encouraged them to get religion. May God have mercy on them.

"Saturday, 5th, some pleasing meditations this day; but, O how shall I have wisdom to feed and lead the flock of Christ: found no text to preach from to-morrow.

"Sunday, 6th, now it is sabbath morning and I must prepare for meeting. O my stupid heart, to go to meeting without any sensible enjoyment of God! O that I may be in earnest about the salvation of the souls of the children of men. O the dear people of my charge in this place! Now I am in a great strait; the hungry lambs and sheep to be fed to-day —may I have five loaves and some fishes, and God's blessing, and then they will be fed, and not without. Preached with a good degree of freedom; attended conference, was very happy, and used my influence to encourage the people to get religion.

"Monday, 7th, nothing very special in joy or grief, my mind steady.

"Tuesday, 8th, my mind rejoiced with a brother from Lyme, who gave an account of the reformation in that place; and it was very comforting to me to hear my old neighbors were engaged for religion. I went to conference meeting this evening and was very happy in mind: prayed with a number of brethren and sisters, and

had the pleasure to hear a number of young converts pray. Such a work of God as is now in this place, the oldest person here does not remember. To see parents and children coming out in religion so wonderfully as they do here, is astonishing; and the work appears to spread in almost every direction: in Haddam the work is more powerful than it is here.

"Wednesday, 9th, meditation sweet, and my mind engaged. Conference at my house this evening; a number of young men under conviction, and it was a powerful time.

"Thursday, 10th, went to meeting this evening, and had the pleasure to hear a number of young converts speak of God's goodness to them, and pray: and a number of young men and women under conviction were present. This meeting was chiefly for the encouragement of the young converts. May the God of Israel keep the lambs in his bosom.

"Friday, 11th, this morning found my mind in something of an uneasy situation; my head much in pain, with almost an ague. Much unwell, but must prepare to go to P— to meeting. I want Jesus to be with me in meeting, at home, in temporal business, and in every thing. Went and preached to a very full assembly, my mind was solemn and engaged; attended conference with great pleasure, and had the joy to see many solemn faces.

"Saturday, 12th, laboring for right motives to attend preparatory meeting; a number are expected to offer themselves to join with the church; O that I may have wisdom to discern, so that no lambs may be shut out, nor any wolves received. Attended covenant meeting, and had the pleasure to find the church in union, and to receive nine, who wish to be baptized to-morrow; and I wish to have strength to administer the ordinance to the glory of God; but I know that I am unworthy of myself, but Jesus is alworthy to receive honor, and praise, and obedience, and I am willing to be a servant to my brethren.

"Sunday morning arose with my heart in union with truth; prayer and praise sweet; went to the house of mourning whence a funeral is to be attended at eight o'clock, and prayed, and returned before the funeral, to hear one person relate her experience before the church, and she was unanimously received: the corpse was then brought to the meeting house, and I preached on the occasion; and so large and solemn assembly was never seen in this meeting house before. Then I went to the grave, and after the interment went to the water, and had the pleasure to baptize ten persons; eight of them were youths. A very happy time at communion. Some times I have concluded the work was abating, but God has it in his hands.

"Monday, in darkness and trials.

"Tuesday, in great trials: heard Mr. Mills preach: attended conference, and was happy, and found some laboring minds for duty.

"Wednesday, 16th, at Chester, heard Mr. Vail preach, and spent some time with him and Mr. Mills, and preached in the evening.

"Thursday, returned home.

"Friday, 18th, this morning the word of God was precious, and prayer and praise refreshing.

"Saturday, 19th, this day attended church meeting, and heard seven relate what God had done for them, and they were all received by the church. O that God would give me grace to feed the flock with the gospel of Christ. I find myself much better in body than some time past; praised be God; but my mind labors much: I am about to join myself to this church; to be a leader to God's people is a great thing, and I am much wanting in wisdom; but my mind is something engaged to cast all concern on the Lord. God be pleased to lift on me thy light and love, that I may perform my duty and be owned of thee.

"Sunday, 20th, something in the dark, but relying on God's word and promise. Preached, and then baptized eight persons; seven of whom were youths, and three of them but twelve, and thirteen

years of age. Preached again with enlargement.

"Monday, 21st, my mind in great darkness, went to Chester, and had some enjoyment in conversation: preached, and endeavored to persuade my hearers to enter into the feast while there is room.

"Tuesday, 22d, much engaged in things relating to the cause, and felt to cast all my care on the Lord. My mind stedfast to maintain a daily warfare.

"Wednesday, felt to prize religion above all earthly things.

"Thursday, my mind rather more entertained with spiritual things than for some days past; had some sweet meditation on the covenants of works, and grace.

"Friday, 25th, spent some time at a friends in conversation, and had some sweet meditation on the word; had some reflections on satan's devices, and how the saints overcome them by the blood of Christ and the word of their testimony. My mind much in labor to find the reformation in this place evidently on the decline: O God! what will those souls do that have not been brought in? Lord have mercy on them.

"Saturday, 26th, rode to Haddam and attended church meeting with my mind happy; religion was my theme, and with great pleasure did I hear five persons relate what God had done for them. The church received them, and they stand

candidates for baptism: my mind much bent to find right motives; to act from self will not honor the cause; but if my eye is single to the glory of God, I may expect a blessing.

"Sunday, 27th, my mind very happy in meditating on the growing prospects of the church. Preached to a very solemn assembly with joy and enlargement; baptized the five mentioned yesterday; I have not enjoyed such a day as this for some time; communion season was precious. Preached in the evening, but my mind was unfruitful: much unwell, and retired to rest in great distress at my vitals.

"Monday, 28th, meditation sweet. A brother came from Middleton to see me, and we had an agreeable interview. In the afternoon attended the funeral of an old lady and preached. I was much afflicted with the head ach, and went to a friend's house in great pain, which lasted all night.

"Tuesday, 29th, attended meeting this afternoon, and heard Mr. Andrews preach; was very happy in meeting and conversation.

"Wednesday, 30th, preached, was refreshed and enlarged; this has been a very happy day.

"Thursday, 31st, business, and religious meditation.

"Friday, April 1st, my mind much in the dark.

"Saturday, 2d, some pleasure in conversation; but very unhappy in my feelings when I reflect on the work of God, appearing to be on the decline: none are under conviction. O that God of his infinite mercy would revive his work.

"Sunday, 3d, my mind in the dark this morning, with scarcely knowledge of my motives. To go to meeting without the glory of God in view will be wrong; may God help me, or I shall not honor his cause. Preached, with my mind much engaged to shew that the whole earth is of one mind, heart, language and speech to oppose God's government; and that the true church are all of one language and one speech. My mind was fruitful; blessed be God. Attended conference, and had a refreshing season.

"Monday, 4th, business, with my mind fixed on religion.

"Tuesday, 5th, spent this day in visiting friends, and found great joy in endeavoring to help them in matters of religion. There is now a great spirit of persecution, and I am the song of the wicked; but if I can keep a conscience void of offence, happy am I. God grant me grace to live with the whole armor of God, that the arrows may not wound me.

"Wednesday, 6th, preached, and was much enlarged, and very happy.

"Thursday, 7th, spent this forenoon in visiting and praying with friends. Preach-

ed in the afternoon with great union to the word of God. Preached again in the evening; and though there was in the place a great opposition, I enjoyed my mind very well, and the spirit of God in a good measure assisted me.

"Friday, 8th, this day was fast, and I preached with great enlargement.

"Saturday, 9th, covenant meeting this day with the church, and it was a comfortable time. Ten persons told their experience, and were received into fellowship; and these have it on their minds to be baptized to-morrow. May God grant me grace, and may his glory be before my eyes.

"Sunday, 10th, this day was much engaged on the subject of prayer; and had much freedom in endeavoring to shew my hearers that it was their duty to pray without ceasing. Baptized ten persons, eight of them youths: God be pleased to keep them from sin and temptation. Broke bread, and communion season was blessed. The upbuilding of the church in this place, is a wonderful blessing that none but God can give; and since it hath pleased him thus to smile upon us, may I ever live to his glory.

"Monday, 11th, attended freemen's meeting, and meditated on the spirit of the times: it appears that if God of his infinite mercy does not overturn, all will be in a very unhappy condition. God be pleased to save the people from ruin.

"Tuesday, 12th, having a meeting appointed at my meeting house for Mr. Vail of Had-Lyme to preach, I began meeting before he came; he arrived and preached, and it was comforting to me. Spent the evening in conversation very agreeably.

"Wednesday, 13th, visited my friends at Killingworth, and preached in the evening to a crowded and solemn assembly in the new academy; and shewed them from scripture that tyrany will be destroyed by the appearing of the cloud like a man's hand; my mind was happy and fruitful.

"Thursday, 14th, spent this day in visiting, praying and singing; and have been happy in mind.

"Friday, 15th, meditated on gospel discipline, under the figure of an orchard, and the pruning of it.

"Saturday, 16th, wrote, visited, and conversed; but nothing special.

"Sunday, 17th, in the forenoon with great pleasure recommended the path of self-denial and the cross; in the afternoon found my mind truly enlarged in speaking of the more true word of propheey than what men see with the natural eye, or hear with the natural ear, that is, the revealed will of God.

"Monday, 18th, my mind much in the dark.

"Tuesday, 19th, labored much this morn-

ning to overcome a worldly mind that I found within me.

"Wednesday, 20th, was instructed much by burning brush, and by the fire raging, which was brought under. Preached in the evening with comfort.

"Thursday, 21st, this day about forty women came to my house with gifts for my family, and brought about fifty runs of yarn; together with cloth and provision. Blessed God, be pleased to reward them for their kindness; was very happy in prayer with these persons, and comfortable at conference meeting at my house this evening. I find my mind much in labor to see the church built up in this place; may I be a faithful minister.

"Saturday, 23d, rode to Haddam to visit the church in that place, and was rejoiced to hear a number of persons offer themselves to be members of this church: my mind was very happy in contemplating on the prosperity of the church.

"Sunday, 24th, this day preached with great pleasure and joy, and the people were very solemn; and although there was a great number that could not get into the meeting house, yet I saw no disorder. We received two members to the fellowship of the church, and then went to the water to attend the ordinance of baptism, and one person was received at the water; I then baptized eighteen persons, and they all joined the church in that place.

Such a number I never baptized in one day before. We communed and had a refreshing season.

"Monday, 25th, my mind in great darkness.

"Saturday, 30th, I have been in great darkness all the week past. This day rode to Middleton, and on the way called at a house where a woman was sick, and after some conversation on religion she asked me to pray with her, and my mind was enlarged.

"Sunday, May 1st, preached, and was very happy in mind, and enjoyed great enlargement in commending to my hearers the weapons of the christian warfare. This has been a good day to my soul, blessed be God. Preached in the evening at Westfield society, but my mind was much in the dark, yet solemn.

"Monday, 2d, my mind happy in prayer; visited a number of friends, and arrived at the lower houses at two o'clock, and my mind was much at liberty, and my soul refreshed. Many inquiring minds, and it appears that the God of Israel is about to work in that place. Returned to Haddam at evening, and preached in the court house to a large and serious assembly, and my soul was happy, and much enlarged in looking at the things eternal and unseen; a better season I have not known for many days.

"Tuesday, 3d, awoke this morning hap-

py in mind, and prayer and praise were refreshing. Returned home. Through this week I was much engaged to overcome a worldly mind.

"Saturday, 7th, covenant meeting this day, and it was very sorrowful to find the church growing cold in their minds. O God keep them in thy love, and suffer them not to wound thy cause.

"Sunday, 8th, happy in mind. It snows very hard, and is doubtful about meeting; attended and preached, and was much engaged, and the brethren refreshed; none were baptized on account of the storm, but about forty of the church communed.

"Tuesday, 10th, had much pleasure this evening, in reading Bunyan's experience; I found many things of my own that agreed with his.

"Thursday, rode to Chester and preached with freedom of mind, and had a very solemn assembly: I then baptized one person that was eigtyfour years old; such things are very uncommon. Attended this evening to settle a difficulty between one person of religion, and some who were not, and succeeded.

"Sunday, 15th, preached with some considerable degree of enlargement, and insisted on things that are excellent; and that we must be sincere or we shall not be accepted of God: and was blest in shewing that the person Moses spake of in Deut. 18, 18, 19, was Christ, and how care-

ful we should be in giving heed thereunto.

"Tuesday and Wednesday, attended meetings, and they were good days to me.

"Sunday, 22d, was comfortable in preaching, but this evening was much afflicted in hearing of the persecuting spirit in our land against the people of God. Luke 11, 54, was a comfort to me. Baptized three persons this day; and heard elder Lester preach in the afternoon.

"Tuesday, 24th, I was called upon to visit a sick friend in Killingworth, and had my mind refreshed in conversation and prayer: found one person under trials about baptism, and endeavored to open and explain the ordinance; praying that God will help her to a right view of it.

"Friday, 27th, this day preached a funeral sermon, and was considerably enlarged.

"Saturday, 28th, rode to Middleton; my mind much engaged.

"Sunday, 29th, preached with much engagedness; the assembly was very solemn. At conference this evening I was very happy in my soul: this day has been a good day to my soul, blessed be God: found some under conviction, and the people are inquiring to know what they shall do to be saved.

"Monday, 30th, this morning rode out of town about three miles to visit a sick friend, and found the person very weak, and not much sensible of her condition; prayed with her, and advised her to get

prepared for death. Preached in the afternoon, and enjoyed one of the best seasons I ever experienced, and as solemn a time with the people as I ever saw: many were weeping, and much conviction on many minds. This evening a number came to my lodgings, and one person was under solemn impressions; prayed with them.

"Tuesday, 31st, this day I expected to have returned home, but was requested to stay, and I found much work to do: some were under trials about baptism, and some under conviction of sin, so that the day was taken up in visiting and praying until six o'clock; I then attended meeting, and again in the evening found some under strong conviction. This has been a good day to me, blessed be God.

"Wednesday, June 1st, returned home.

"Sunday, 5th, preached with a good degree of enlargement. I spake of the door, and what it was to be shut; earnestly requesting sinners to enter in before the door is shut.

"Saturday, 11th, my mind has been much taken up in worldly things the week past, and now I beg God to forgive me. Attended covenant meeting, and was much pleased in beholding the church in union. This day three members joined, who make fortysix that have joined this church since last December.

"Sunday, 12th, my mind to-day some-

thing enlarged in preaching; baptized one person, and then attended communion and saw some beauty in the ordinance. When I consider the numbers that have joined this church, and what a great care devolves on me as the leader I say, who is sufficient for these things? while my prayer is to almighty God for the teaching of the spirit.

"Monday, 13th, this day I spent in endeavoring to look into something in some of the members of the church, that looked unfavorable to the cause of religion; and I strove to search out the matter, and have it settled: O that God in infinite mercy may help the church to continue unto the end.

"Saturday, 18th, went to Killingworth and enjoyed some good degree of christian conversation and meditation.

"Sunday, 19th, preached at Killingworth to a very crowded assembly, but my mind was beclouded in the forenoon; but in the afternoon I had liberty in shewing how people become acquainted with God.

"Monday, tuesday, and wednesday, much engaged in temporal business.

"Thursday, 23d, much unwell, and unfit for business. A number of men worked for me to-day, but I could not be with them much. I have recently had a number of dollars given me, and have laid them out in clothes, and they are now making. May God give me grace to improve the mercies I receive, to his glory.

"Saturday, 25th, rode to Haddam to visit the church in that place, but before I sat out I found myself very unwell, and I am of the opinion that I shall not live long in this world.

"Sunday, 26th, this morning was happy in prayer, and my mind was solemn: went to meeting with a desire that God would help me preach; and was sensible that I could not speak without help from heaven, and that God was more ready to give the Holy Spirit to them that ask, than I am to give good gifts to my children; blessed be God. In the forenoon I had much freedom in shewing that although the first man Adam became corrupt, and all his posterity; yet they are quickened by the second Adam, Jesus. In the afternoon preached with my mind happy. I then attended communion and it was a happy season. When I closed I was much spent, and very faint. I find my bodily infirmity is increasing on me apace, and if I may at length reach heaven, I shall then be happy in spirit.

"Monday, 27th, returned home. I thought this evening that the insects of the field praised God more than I did. O God forgive me. This week my mind has been much in the dark, and not any sensible enjoyment of religion, but much worldly care and anxiety. The world, flesh, and devil I find are great enemies to grace.

"Sunday, July 3d, my mind much in

darkness; but preached in the forenoon, and found a good degree of pleasure in shewing how liable men are to give place to the devil; and how they are protected from his ensnarements by Jesus alone. In the afternoon shewed that the mysteries of the kingdom are revealed to God's children alone, and how the gospel of Jesus Christ is spread in every age amidst the opposition of wicked men and devils; and, second, how a little church has continued in the midst of all its persecutions; and, third, how grace is kept alive in the heart which is naturally the fountain of sin: but my mind was not very fruitful.

"Monday, 4th, this is the birth day of American Independence; attended the celebration at Killingworth, and prayed on the occasion.

"Friday, 8th, at Killingworth attended a funeral of a man that died suddenly: had some freedom.

"Saturday, 9th, covenant meeting; the church was in union, and four members joined: I felt very solemn, and much engaged.

"Sunday, 10th, I was in great labor of mind this morning, some on my own account, and some on account of the church, being obliged to advise some members not to commune with the church to-day. I was refreshed in preaching. Baptized four persons. Attended communion.

"Saturday, 16th, preached at the house

of Mr. C. Brooks in Chester, and had a good degree of assistance. Notification being given that Mr. B. wished to join, the church met and heard his relation, but were not satisfied, and he was put off to another meeting.

"Sunday, 17th, preached at Haddam; in the forenoon found much pleasure in describing the palm tree, and shewing the parity between that and the christian. And by request, in the afternoon, spake of the stone of stumbling, and rock of offence. Attended conference in the evening, and had an uncommon happy meeting; a number of christians spake with great freedom.

"Monday, 18th, prayer and praise very comfortable this morning: spent this day in visiting and conversation, with great freedom.

"Sunday, 24th, found great freedom in shewing that the lily points out the christian, and the apple tree Christ, in a very clear view: spake largely of the fruit to be gathered from under his shadow, that is sweet to the taste. Rode to Killingworth town and preached in the meeting house, with freedom, shewing the parity between Joseph, and Jesus Christ.

"Saturday, 30th, much afflicted with soreness and pain in my throat, which was very distressing.

"Sunday, 31st, unable to go to meeting till afternoon, and elder Hill preached,

but it was with difficulty I could keep the house till meeting was done: my mind much in darkness,

"Monday, August 1st, much unwell, but in the afternoon was able to visit, and was comforted.

"Sunday, 7th, I find by looking back on the week past, that my mind has been much on worldly things; too much so, to be beneficial to the church. I must try to have my mind more spiritual. Preached, and had a good degree of liberty in shewing the excellency of Christ Jesus, and how the knowledge thereof is obtained. In the afternoon found much sweetness in shewing that by grace man is saved: I felt willing then that it should be by grace.

"Wednesday, 10th, I found my mind much in labor with regard to the church, for we must soon proceed to the choice of deacons. May God be pleased to direct as shall be for his glory.

"Saturday, 13th, covenant meeting, and although but one member joined, yet it was a good day, and the church was unanimous in the choice of deacons, and agreed in proceeding to communion.

"Sunday, 14th, this forenoon heard elder Lester preach; in the afternoon I preached, and was greatly enlarged on the important question of, What think ye of Christ? I was much ravished in insisting that the people should have right thoughts

of Christ in the several parts of his office. This has been a good day to my soul, blessed be God; I was very happy in the time of communion; I thought I never saw the church look more beautiful in my life; it appeared, in some measure, like a bride adorned for the Lamb.

"Wednesday, 17th, I went to visit a sick friend in North Killingworth, and took much satisfaction in conversing and praying with him. Visited, and prayed with others, and returned.

"Saturday, 20th, I find my mind has been much in the dark, and engaged in worldly cares, and I am not so spiritual as I could wish.

"Sunday, 21st, my mind labored this morning for right motives to worship God. Preached, and was refreshed: I insisted on the propriety of all coming to Christ and seeing his beauty. In the afternoon my mind was much enlarged on the subject of the saints being dead, and their life hid with Christ in God. O that God would set it home on the people's minds.

"Tuesday, 23d, attended with a number of brethren to a difficulty with one of the brethren, and laid out a way, as I hope, for a settlement.

"Wednesday, 24th, visited, but my mind was not very fruitful in spiritual things.

"Thursday, 25th, attended a funeral, and was some sensible of the solemnity.

This evening went to visit a brother in the church, whose wife has been confined a number of months by reason of a fall from a horse, who also is a member of the church, and found her very happy in mind. I tarried all night, and had a pleasing interview.

"Friday, 26th, enjoyed not much of religion.

"Saturday, 27th, went to Haddam to visit the church in that place, and had the happiness to see it in union; one person joined, a man eightythree years of age, and now stands a candidate for baptism: good Lord prepare me to administer in such holy things.

"Sunday, 28th, preached, and then baptized the man mentioned yesterday, and the holy ordinance was a great pleasure to me. In the afternoon I had great liberty, and I never saw greater necessity to endeavor to persuade sinners to get into the way, and saints to continue therein; O that God may set it home with power. Attended communion and it was a very happy time. In the evening had much freedom in speaking of the love of God, and what it is to keep in the same. This has been a good day to my soul, blessed be God.

"Monday, 29th, visited, and spake much to encourage the people to get religion. Returned home much in need of rest.

"Tuesday, 30th, visited: called to see a woman that has not her reason, and found my mind to take hold of her case. Meditated on the blesing of reason. Much afflicted with the head ach.

"Sunday, September 4th, prayer and praise sweet. Preached and was enlarged in shewing in what particulars God the father had sealed the son of man: the time was solemn. In the afternoon preached concerning the stone which is a figure of Christ; the happy effects of falling on this stone; and the dreadful effects of this stone falling on sinners; I warned and cautioned the people: may God of his infinite mercy grant that they may fall on it in general throughout the world.

"Monday, 5th, attended a company military review, and prayed with them, dined &c. There was a heavy gale of wind, and a young man was drowned in Connecticut river.

"Wednesday, 7th, had some serious meditation on time, as this day closes my thirty sixth year that God has spared me to live.

"Thursday, 8th, this is my birth day; O how stupid my mind has been to-day; but have had some reflection on the time that God has spared me. I have thought that if God spares me another year, I will try to live more to his glory. Meditated on time, that wafts all mankind into eternity.

"Friday, 9th, preached at North Killingworth, to a crowded assembly, and was some engaged in shewing the works of God. Baptized one man; this was something new in that place.

"Saturday, 10th, visited, and called to see an old man that was sick, and, to apearance, near his end. In the afternoon attended covenant meeting; the church was in union and received one member.

"Sunday, 11th, heard elder Lester preach in the forenoon, and was refreshed. In the afternoon I found freedom in preaching, and insisted largely on the need of taking heed how we hear. O that God would set it home on all the people's minds. We then communed and were very happy.

"Monday, 12th, I went this afternoon to visit a sick friend, that sent to the church for prayers yesterday, and found her much better than I expected, and was much at liberty in prayer.

"Thursday, 15th, preached, and baptized two persons; my mind was solemn; found a woman tried about baptism; may God help her.

"Friday, 16th, saw much of God's care of me; about twenty persons came with teams and seed, and plowed and sowed a piece of ground for me. The God of grace be pleased to reward them for their kindness.

"Saturday, 17th, went to Middleton to see the church in that place.

"Sunday, 18th, preached in the court house in Middleton; in the forenoon the subject was weighty and solemn, and God was pleased to direct some of it to the hearts of some of the people; my mind was enlarged, happy and fruitful. In the afternoon was engaged to persuade the people to attend to what God hath provided as means for men to obtain religion. In the evening attended conference meeting, and it was a comfortable season to me: a person came to me in this meeting and said that God made me the means in his hand of reclaiming her from a backslidden state. O that men would love the Lord for his goodness, and wonderful works, to the children of men.

"Monday, 19th, spent this day in visiting and conversation, till four o'clock P. M. when I sat out for Haddam; I arrived there after sun set, and preached in the evening. In the time of the first prayer a man fell to the floor, which caused much moving of the people, and inquiry for the cause: he said, and so did some others, that it was the power of God that made him fall; but I know not the real cause. I was much engage this evening in speaking of those that are poor in spirit, and the nature of that poverty, and its effects and consequences; I had this evening a sense of faith in its effects.

"Tuesday, 20th, spent this forenoon in religious conversation, and then returned home.

"Wednesday, 21st, business, and visiting.

"Saturday, 24th, some friends came to my house, and I had a pleasing interview; had some reflection on the important work of God in this place. O that God may prepare my heart, if I live until to-morrow, to go to his people with a *Thus saith the Lord:* but my mind is not very fruitful.

"Sunday, 25th, preached this morning, and found a good degree of help from above, in describing wisdom, and how wisdom is justified of her children; and I have reason to bless God for his goodness to me. In the afternoon I spake of the name that Moses had revealed as attributable unto God, I AM; but my mind was not so enlarged as in the morning.

"Wednesday, 28th, visited a person that has been sick a long time, and to appearance near her end. God's ways are past finding out.

"Friday, 30th, my mind has been much taken up in preparing for a journey, in which I expect to be gone one week; and if this short journey causes me so much labor and anxiety, what should be the care for the journey to the world of spirits? which I am hastening to, and know not when I must go: from this long journey I shall never return: O that I may be in actual readiness for it when I am called.

"Saturday, October 1st, attended the funeral of the woman mentioned last wed-

nesday, and found much sweetness in preaching. I then went on my journey.

"Sunday, 2d, preached in Guilford, and in the morning was much enlarged in speaking of the path that leads to glory. In the afternoon I spake with engagedness; then I went to the water and baptized one man, and I think I never saw more people attend on such an occasion; God be pleased to set truth home with power on them. Preached in the evening to a much larger assembly than in the day time, and found some souls inquiring what the Lord requires of them.

"Monday, 3d, sat out in the morning to pursue my journey; I fell in company with a deacon Murry of Vermont, and rode with him all day; we enjoyed christian conversation, and arrived at Southbury in the evening. The man of the house I put up at was a Roman catholic; we conversed on principles, but finally concluded we could not convince each other, and dropped the subject.

"Tuesday, 4th, arrived at Newtown at one o'clock P. M. and spent the remainder of the day in visiting and conversation: in the evening a number of people came to my lodgings, and I exhorted them to get religion and prepare for death, and prayed with them.

"Wednesday, 5th, journeyed for Danbury, and enjoyed sweet conversation on the road. My journey to this place was

to attend an Association. The people met and were solemn; after preaching, the business of the convention was attended to, I believe, in the mind of God. In the evening I preached with freedom, the people were solemn, and some of the brethren much engaged. The man and woman of the house where I lodged, I found were enquiring about attending to religious duties; I endeavored to instruct them into the ordinances, &c.

"Thursday, 6th, met this morning at eight o'clock in the meetinghouse for worship, and a man was brought in a coach, who was the greatest object of charity I ever saw, having lain on his bed for eleven years, without being able to stir hand, or foot, or head, and reduced to a skeleton, all but his feet which are grown to an enormous size, and quite out of shape, so that they have not the appearance of feet; the greatest sight I ever saw. At two o'clock P. M. I sat out for Newtown, and arrived there in the evening, to preach according to previous appointment; and I enjoyed one of the best seasons I ever had, in shewing that the Lord is good, and what it is to taste and see,

"Friday, 7th, journeyed for Guilford, and fell in company with a man on the road, and conversed on the effects of the spirit, but we differed essentially. I arrived at Guilford about sun set, and preached from John 3, 8, and thought I never

saw a more interesting and important subject in my life; and never saw people, to appearance, give better attention. After preaching, the people sat down, and I conversed some time on a religious subject, and after they were gone I found one inquiring what the Lord required to be done.

"Saturday, 8th, I had purposed to set out early this morning for home, but found so much work to do that I could not until ten o'clock A. M. And, when I gat into town I was requested to visit a woman that had come into the place to see me; I went, and found that she wanted milk and not meat, being in a desponding way of mind; I endeavored to administer comfort from God's word to her, and my mind was greatly enlarged; and I was very humble and happy in praying with her. After this I spent some time in conversing with friends, and found one old man about seventyseven years old, willing to follow the example of Christ and be baptized, and a day was appointed for the purpose. I arrived at home in the evening.

"Sunday, 9th, preached and found great freedom, and communion was a good time to my soul.

"Saturday, 15th, the week past has been a good week to me; I think I have enjoyed something of religion, and had some meditation on death. I am preparing to attend the Stonington Association: O

that it may put me in mind of the great assembly of the first born in an association.

"Sunday, 16th, preached, but my mind was much shut up, which caused me some mourning; O that God would forgive me. Attended this evening to marry a couple, and took some pleasure in talking to them on the importance of living to God's glory.

"Monday, 17th, sat out this morning to attend the Association, and reached Norwich in the evening, and at the request of my friends preached in the meeting house, but without much freedom.

"Tuesday, went to Stonington and attended the Association; it was an agreeable time; heard of some reformations in some churches; preached in the evening at the house of doctor Spaulden, with some freedom, but not to that degree as at some other times.

"Wednesday, 19th, Association being ended, I sat out for home, and arrived at Norwich in the evening. I had the pleasure to find one person to-day under conviction, and endeavored to encourage her to seek in earnest; may God help her.

"Thursday, 20th, sat out early this morning, and arrived at Montville, at my father's, about nine o'clock A. M. and at the request of my parents I spent the day with them; and they invited me to preach at their house. I was invited to visit one of my former acquaintance who was near her end with the consumption. I found

her very weak in body, and stupid in mind; I conversed and prayed with her; O that God may have mercy on her. In the evening the people came together and I saw many of my old friends, and found much freedom in preaching. I was happy in seeing so many of my former acquaintance, and in having an opportunity to preach to them the things of the kingdom; Lord grant that it may do them good.

"Friday, 21st, journeyed this morning towards home, and arrived at Lyme among the people where I once lived, and I preached to them, and was in a good measure assisted in shewing the difference between the spirits, and what it is in having them witness together.

"Saturday, 22d, visited in the morning, and found some very solemn, and under conviction. Arrived at home in the evening.

"Sunday, 23d, felt my mind solemn this morning. I went to meeting in some measure feeling my dependance on God, and found great freedom in speaking of the foundation, and the building of the church thereon. In the afternoon, with much pleasure, spake of the righteous and the wicked. Lord have mercy on the people.

"Thursday, 28th, I was happy in conference meeting this evening, and there appeared some engagedness among the brethren.

"Saturday, 29th, rode to Guilford.

"Sunday, 30th, this morning I attended conference with a number of brethren, and received two persons into fellowship. Preached, and was much assisted in shewing the nature of sin, and in encouraging sinners to look to Jesus to be saved. I then baptized two persons, and one of them was seventyseven years of age. I then preached again and had great enlargement in shewing what believing in Christ is. Received five persons into fellowship. Preached in the evening, and enjoyed great freedom, and thought the people were as solemn as I ever saw.

"Monday, 31st, rode out of town to see a sick man near to death with a cancer, and found him very low, and he says he has no hope in God that his sins are pardoned; I prayed with him; and found one person willing to covenant to pray, seeing the danger of being lost. Preached this evening, and think I never saw the system of religion clearer in my life, and the people were very solemn, and some inquiring to know what they must do to be saved.

"Tuesday, November 1st, religious conversation in the morning; I then went by request to visit two sick men, and conversed and prayed with them; I then sat out for Killingworth and called on the way to see a woman low in the consumption, and prayed with her. In the evening preached at Killingworth in the mee-

ing house, and I think I never had such freedom in that place before.

"Wednesday, 2d, returned home.

"Thursday, 3d, much unwell, but visited and prayed with an old lady, a member of our church; who is eightyeight years of age, and very infirm. My bodily infirmities, I fear, are returning upon me; may God prepare me to do his will in life or death. Preached this evening with some freedom, but attended with much bodily disorder.

"Friday, I spent this evening with great pleasure in conversing and praying with friends.

"Saturday, 5th, this day closes one year since I moved to this place; and, O! what blessings I have received, and how unthankful! I have been supplied by God's goodness, and the people's kindness: O what a revival I have seen in religion; such an one I never saw before: I have seen some of almost every age, from nine years to eightyfour professing religion; and have baptized of every the above description. The whole number I have baptized within one year is seventyseven persons.

"Sunday, 6th, it rained hard, and but few people attended meeting: I was much unwell, and did not preach.

"Thursday, 10th, attended conference meeting this evening, and was happy to find my brethren and sisters bent to pursue the cause of religion.

"Friday, 11th, spent this evening agreeably at a friend's house, in conversation and prayer.

Saturuay, 12th, covenant meeting, and I was happy to find the church in union; one person joined with us.

"Sunday, 13th, felt my mind something enlarged, and it was a very comfortable time at communion. This night I was seized violently with a distress at my vitals, and was in great pain for some time; but by the goodness of God found relief by medicine. I know not but some such turn will end my days; and if I am prepared, the will of the Lord be done, so I may join the heavenly host.

"Saturday, 19th, I have spent this week in pain and anxiety: I am very much unprepared for the sabbath, and much more to preach; help Lord.

"Sunday, 20th, preached, and was greatly enlarged, and found a good degree of freedom; and I think I was something sensible of the importance of preaching sound doctrine. I have great cause to mourn that such a great declension in religion is apparent in the church.

"Thursday, 24th, thanksgiving day, and I preached with a good degree of freedom: this is the first thanksgiving day I ever preached. In the evening I preached at Killingworth to a crowded assembly.

"Saturday, 26th, rode to Middleton to visit friends, but I was not much com-

forted by meditation on the road, my mind was in great darkness.

"Sunday, 27th, preached, but my mind was much in the dark in the forenoon, but in the afternoon something more enlarged: I thought that the truth of the gospel was worthy of my whole attention. Preached in the evening, and was comforted: also married a couple. I appointed to preach a number of evenings this week, and lotted upon it to much, I conclude, for on

"Monday, I was seized with violent distress at my vitals, and was much cramped in my limbs, which prevented my preaching any more while I was in Middleton.

"Tuesday, rode out to Westfield, but was much in pain. Attended meeting at the upper houses in Middleton, and elder Lee from Ballstown preached in my room; as also he did at Stadle Hill, and again on thursday evening: thus the appointments I had made were supplied by an able man. The people were very kind to me in my sickness, and made me some handsome presents; blessed be God.

"Saturday, December 3d, rode home.

"Sunday, 4th, preached, and although my bodily strength was weak, yet I found great freedom in shewing what we may learn by the words, 'I will have mercy, and not sacrifice.' Afterwards went to the water and baptized one person.

"Wednesday, 7th, much unwell; at-

tended conference this night, but with no great enjoyment.

"Thursday, went to visit a sister in the church, who is deprived of her reason, and found her an object of pity; and the evil spirit raged in her to that degree I could not pray with her. O what a blessing is health and reason; may God preserve me in both, and give me grace to improve them to his glory.

"Sunday, 11th, preached, and found some freedom in speaking of the power of God in bringing sinners into subjection to his will.

"Wednesday, 14th, much unwell, and have been so this number of days: not able to do much business; and the follies and foibles of my life are many.

"Thursday, 15th, attended with a number of brethren to settle a difficulty in the church, and succeeded without much trouble.

"Friday, 16th, sat out for Guilford, and at East Guilford attended meeting with some good degree of satisfaction.

"Saturday, 17th, arrived at Guilford in the afternoon, and attend covenant meeting, and it was a good time with the brethren in that place.

"Sunday, 18th, preached with great freedom; then attended the sacrament of the Lord's supper, and it was as solemn a time as I ever saw, and the most people attended as spectators that I ever knew.

In the evening preached again, and I think I was assisted by God's spirit to shew the difference between dealing kindly and truly with the Lord, and the reverse.

"Monday, 19th, spent in visiting, and conversing with some under trials about the ordinance of baptism; Lord make it profitable to them.

"Tuesday, 20th, I thought I was as free from my bodily infirmities as I had been for a long time; but in the midst of my expectation was seized with a very violent fit, which prevented my preaching this evening, as I had appointed; but I was very happy in mind, and think I enjoyed a blessing in joining with a number of brethren and sisters in prayer meeting.

"Wednesday, 21st, much unwell, but preached in the meeting house, and enjoyed a good degree of satisfaction.

"Thursday, 22d, I intended to have sat out this morning early for home, but was called upon to visit a person about three miles out of town, who was in great distress of mind. I found that she was bound in satan's chain: I advised, exhorted, and prayed with her. Returned home in the afternoon.

"Saturday, 24th, much unwell, and not fit for any business: — cannot hear, nor read the word with any comfort or engagement. I now must go to Haddam. My labors are many, and my strength small; Lord help me.

"Sunday, 25th, preached in Haddam, but much unwell in body and mind: in the forenoon not much at liberty; and in the afternoon in great distress of body, and darkness of mind. I then attended communion, but I think with as little sense as I ever had of that holy ordinance: Lord what a creature I am!

"Saturday, 31st, this day closes the year 1803. The week past has been spent in anxiety, pain, and trouble. It is very different with me now from what it was last year. My mind is much in darkness. This has been a very sick day to me; I am in great bodily pain. I think I am much unfit for a minister of Jesus Christ.

"Sunday, January 1st, 1804, I am not able to attend meeting; O that the Lord would meet with his people and bless them to-day. Last new-year's day I said, if the Lord would help me, I would be obedient to him. I thought then I should not have so much painful reflection on an idle life, and so many follies as I now find in a review. When shall I be a man of God! O how unprofitable I am in Zion! I am sensible the work of a minister is a great work. O how unqualified I am!

"Saturday, 7th, covenant meeting; but nothing special; my mind very cold,

"Sunday, 8th, this evening was seized with my old disorder violently; but afterward was comfortable in religion: praised be God.

"Thursday, 12th, so far recovered as to ride to East Guilford.

"Saturday, 14th, preached a funeral sermon of a young man killed on the ice last evening.

"Sunday, 15th, preached with freedom: unwell in the evening.

"Friday, 20th, preached at East Guilford, and found much sweetness in shewing what it is to have evangelical repentance.

"Saturday, 21st, very cold, but rode to Guilford town and attended covenant meeting.

"Sunday, 22d, this morning some labor of mind about the great duty of preaching the gospel: Prov. 3, 18, struck my mind very forcibly, and I preached all day thereirom with liberty: attended communion, and it was a solemn time.

"Monday, 23d, visited, and found many inquiring for duty. Happy in conversation and prayer.

"Tuesday, 24th, preached at Killingworth to a very crowded assembly, and had great freedom.

"Sunday, 29th, preached in the forenoon with much enlargement; but in the afternoon never found myself so near being confounded, but I hope it will work for my good. Lord what am I that I should attempt the great work of preaching!

"Saturday, February 4th, all this week has been spent not much to God's glory.

I have been much afflicted with my old disorder, and know not how long I am to stay in this world. How unprepared for the sabbath! to preach and have my mind unfruitful is hard work: none but God can help me; help, Lord.

"Sunday, 5th, preached, but was much in the dark all day. O how unfruitfuf my mind! and how unprofitable in Zion I am! good Lord forgive me. Was greatly comforted in prayer meeting this evening, to find my brethren engaged in religion.

"Monday, 6th, this evening preached at Chester, and was greatly comforted on the important subject of the new birth. I find I am fixed in my mind in the doctrine of Christ; but, O! my barren soul!

"Saturday, 11th, covenant meeting with the church in this place; but how different is the church from what it was last year! yet a good degree of union still prevails. A member of a church in Lyme came in and made some disturbance, which caused me great trouble in spirit: a sister withdrew from us, and if she does not take it back she must be excluded from our fellowship; may God prevent it, if it is for his glory.

"Sunday, 12th, preached, and had one of my best seasons in shewing the little flock. Happy communion; and happy prayer meeting to-night.

"Monday, 13th, visited, attended to settle a difficulty and succeeded, and retired at a late hour.

Tuesday, 14th, much trouble of mind: Lord what shall I do? preached this evening and thought I had a good degree of enlargement; I tried to shew what a real christian is.

"Saturday, 18th, a part of the week has been taken up in looking into difficulties, and in much anxiety of mind. Attended to-day in church labor.

"Sunday, 19th, preached with engagedness; but was much unwell in the evening.

"Monday, 20th, visited, and in the eveing attended meeting at Killingworth; called on a physician, and retired.

"Tuesday, 21st, this evening preached to the singing school with freedom.

"Wednesday 22d was appointed by the church in this place for fasting and prayer, on the account of a sister that is deprived of her reason, and I attended at the house of her father's, who is sick and to appearance near his end, and is likewise deprived of reason. Such a sight I never saw before.

"Thursday, 23d, preached at Chester in the evening; solemn, but not much at liberty.

"Sunday, 26th, great enlargement in prayer.

"Friday, March 2d, attended funeral of one of the brethren of this church, and preached, but had no great enlargement; rode to the grave in as severe a snow storm

as I ever was in so long a time; was much fatigued when I got to a friend's house, but after some refreshment revived, and spent the evening agreeably.

"Sunday, 4th, no meeting by reason of the snow; and my mind is almost as cold as the weather. Married a deacon of the church this evening, and was blest in talking and prayer.

"Saturday, 10th, covenant meeting; but a few of the church were together.

"Sunday, 11th, preached, but was not much enlarged: freedom at communion, for which I desire to praise God.

"Wednesday, 14th, visited; much unwell; slept but little this night.

"Thursday, 15th, much unwell.

"Friday, 16th, sat out for Guilford; lodged at East Guilford, and had no great happiness in conversation or prayer.

"Saturday, arrived at Guilford; attended covenant meeting, and received three members, I was much more unwell this evening than common.

"Sunday, 18th, preached, and was greatly comforted; baptized three persons; and was happy at communion. O how important it is to have heart union, to enable us to commune acceptably.

"Monday, my mind never much freer; preached in the evening, and never saw more need of persuading the people to press into the kingdom.

"Tuesday, 20th, visited a woman bor-

daring on despair; O that the Lord would break satan's chain. Preached this evening at what is called The Neck, to a very crowded assembly, and was assisted; found one person under conviction.

"Wednesday, 21st, sat out for home; called on the way and conversed with an old woman that is near eternity. I was beset with the devil in an unexpected way before I gat home, which put my mind into a great tumult.

"Thursday, 22d, attended a funeral in North Killingworth: the person died suddenly: O that such awakening occurrences may stir up my mind to be ready.

"Sunday, 25th, preached with my mind steadfast and comforted. Preached in the evening at Killingworth to a large assembly, had liberty, and the people were solemn.

"Monday, 26th, visited the sick; and found two persons, lately converted, and happy.

"Wednesday, 28th, in the evening preached at P—: awake in the night with pain in my head.

"Thursday, 29th, much unwell this morning with a violent pain in my head; but enjoyed a good degree of pleasure in conversing on religious subjects: found two persons under some trouble of mind; one about joining the church, and the other for fear she has sinned away the day of grace. I spake to them of the fulness in

Christ, and endeavored to persuade them to attend to Jesus' rules. Returned home with a violent pain in my head, and rested but little at night.

"Friday, 30th, fast, attended meeting, but was much unwell.

"Sunday, April 1st, preached, and was much enlarged in the forenoon in speaking of the rest, and how we should fear lest we fail of it. In the afternoon enjoyed a good degree of pleasure in shewing what is meant by keeping ourselves from idols. At P— married a couple in the evening, and preached with such liberty as I have not enjoyed for a long time: was much fatigued, and slept but little this night.

"Wednesday, 4th, great liberty in prayer; walked some miles on foot, was weary, lame, and slept but little through the night by reason of pain.

"Thursday, 5th, sweet meditation; O that such sealing seasons may keep me near to Jesus. Lord grant that I may never wander from thy fold again. Much unwell this evening.

"Saturday, 7th, attended covenant meeting, and find that there is still union with the church.

"Sunday, 8th, preached, and was comforted, assisted, and enlarged; was happy at communion. This has been a good day to me. One person joined with us to-day by letter, which makes sixty four, joined since I have been in Saybrook.

"Saturday, 14th, I find to-night on reflection, that the week past has not been spent to much advantage, and I am unprepared for the sabbath; Lord forgive.

"Sunday, 15th, preached, but with no great freedom in the forenoon; but in the afternoon was much more engaged and comforted.

"Friday, 20th, preached at East Guilford.

"Saturday, 21st, at Guilford attended church meeting, and received one person into fellowship.

"Sunday, 22d, preached with great enlargement, and had my mind fruitful and humble. Afterward went to the water and baptized one person; great freedom, and soul-humbling heart-union with the truth at communion. Preached again in the evening, and felt some heart melting, and had some real views of the worth of souls. I this day have preached three times, baptized one, broke bread to the church, and prayed twelve times.

"Monday, 23d, preached this evening, and think I never enjoyed more heart union and enlargement in my life; blessed be God, how happy my soul was in treating on heavenly things; found one under temptations and endeavored to administer comfort.

"Wednesday, and thursday, a number of women came to my house, and brought yarn, and other things for the benefit of my family.

"Sunday, 29th, preached, and in the forenoon had sweetness of soul on the subject of the tribulations of christians, and the peace they have in Christ. In the afternoon found my mind much enlarged in shewing the two immutable things of God.

"Sunday, May 6th, in looking back on the week past, I find much of my time has been taken up in temporal business. O how unprepared I am for God's worship to-day. Preached with freedom, and a good degree of union.

"Monday, 7th, attended with the militia company to-day; O that I may be a soldier of Jesus.

"Thursday, 10th, I went to the fishing place, and saw much of the wisdom of God in providing for the children of men.

"Saturday, 12th, covenant meeting, and the church was in union.

"Sunday, 13th, preached, and this morning was much comforted in shewing what it was to strive to enter into the strait gate; and saw then that the gate was none to strait. In the afternoon the kind Lord assisted me in shewing in what particulars Christ ought to suffer, without which he could not enter into his glory. Was greatly comforted in communion season.

"Saturday, 19th, fatigued and unwell; fresh troubles; slept but little to-night.

"Sunday, 20th, in great trouble of mind this morning, but was comforted by read-

ing Luke 7th chap. In the forenoon not much at liberty in preaching; very unwell, and when I began to speak in the afternoon I informed my hearers that it was probable I should not stand long, yet my subject so took my attention that I forgot my pain: my mind was fruitful, and it was a good time to my soul, blessed be God.

"Friday, 25th, a mixed cup; expected to be committed to prison for debt; and to add to my trouble, a cow I had in keeping, which I thought would contribute to the support of my family, the owner took away.

"Saturday, 26th, attended church meeting at Guilford.

"Sunday, 27th, preached, and in the forenoon was greatly comforted, shewing that the christian's life is hid with Christ in God. Baptized an aged person. Attended communion. Heard brother Green preach in the evening, but was much unwell.

"Monday, 28th, went this morning a fishing, which was truly teaching; visited, and preached in the evening at Moose Hill, and enjoyed one of the best seasons.

"Tuesday, 29th, much unwell this morning: visited a person almost in despair, and found, to appearance, the enemy gains ground of her; Lord have mercy upon her.

"Saturday, June 2d, spent this day not to much advantage to my soul.

"Sunday, 3d, went to meeting with a heavy heart and unfruitful mind. Not much enlarged in the forenoon; but in the afternoon had some sweetness in mind in shewing that Jesus was revealed to destroy the works of the devil.

"Monday, tuesday, and wednesday, much unwell,

"Thursday, 7th, went to Middleton, and attended conference meeting with the church, and spent part of the evening conversing with a person under trials about baptism.

"Friday, 8th returned home.

"Saturday, 9th, covenant meeting; the church in union; may they hold out and obtain the crown of glory.

"Sunday, 10th, much enlarged in shewing what it is to watch, and keep the garment. Afterward preached in Killingworth in the presbyterian meeting house to a large assembly, and had much freedom on the important subject of searching the scriptures.

"Monday, 11th, visited a person in trouble of mind and endeavored to administer comfort in God: much unwell.

"Saturday, 16th, the week past has not been spent much to the glory of God. Much in anxiety about temporal things. My horse yesterday fell through a bridge, which much exposed myself and beast; but the Lord preserved my life, but my horse was hurt.

"Sunday, 17th, my mind very barren, but had, I hope, some spiritual teaching.

"Sunday, 24th, much of my time last week was taken up in anxieties and disappointments; poorly prepared to worship God to-day. Preached and had some enlargement, but I see no good from my preaching; O that the Lord would have mercy on the people, and revive his work in this place.

"Sunday, July 1st, my mind much in the wilderness; I went to meeting feeling some dependance on God, and had a comfortable season.

"Wednesday, 4th, attended the festival of American Independence.

"Sunday, 8th, preached a funeral sermon of a child that died suddenly, and was blest in shewing what is a preparation for death. Attended at the grave; preached in the afternoon; broke bread, and it was a comfortable time with the church.

"Sunday, 15th, last week was spent in anxieties and expectations. This forenoon was enlarged on the important subject of being saved by grace alone: it is grace, not works, that saves us. Not much freedom in the afternoon.

"Sunday, 22d, O the sins of my heart! preached this forenoon with great freedom on the subject of the brazen serpent. In the afternoon was greatly comforted in treating of the tree of life.

"Sunday, 29th, I have been in great

anxiety for a great while. Preached at Killingworth.

"August, 2d, had a son born.

"Sunday, 5th, preached with union to my subject, and comfort.

"Wednesday, 8th, my eldest son came home with one foot badly bruised, and one arm out of joint.

"Thursday, 9th, married a couple, and when I gat home found my wife very unwell.

"Saturday, 11th, covenant meeting, and one person joined.

"Sunday, 12th, preached, baptized one person, and attended communion; a good day to my soul, blessed be God.

"Sunday, 19th, preached in a part of Killingworth, and so many people attended that I was obliged to speak in the open air. In the forenoon I enjoyed great freedom; and in the intermission found a person who had lately experienced a change of heart, and was happy in God, and clearly lead to baptism. In the afternoon I had a good degree of assistance from the Lord, and many of the people were much affected; O my God, may it be pressed with power on their minds. In the evening preached in the meeting house to a large assembly, to the comfort of my soul, blessed be God.

"Monday, 20th, much unwell.

"Friday, 24th, the week past has been spent in pain and anxiety. Sat out fo

Guilford, but on the way, in the evening, preached at the Neck, and my mind was fruitful in shewing the work of the devil, and how God destroys it.

"Saturday, 25th, at Guilford, attended covenant meeting, and received one person into fellowship. Some great trials of mind to-day.

"Sunday, 26th, preached, and it was a good time with my soul. Preached in the evening, was solemn, and so were the people.

"Monday, 27th, rode to East Guilford in the rain to preach, and when I gat there I found the devil had made bold to withstand me, and through the misunderstanding of some, I did not preach, although I was informed a number collected in the rain.

"Sunday, September 2d, freedom in speaking, was enlarged and comforted. O how good it is to serve God.

"Sunday, 9th, much shut up in mind; how hard it is to preach without help from heaven!

"Wednesday, 12th, went with a number of brethren to Killingworth; preached with much comfort; received one person into fellowship; baptized the person; rode to East Guilford, and preached again.

"Friday, 14th, returned home, and then went to Haddam to attend a funeral of an only child; solemn mind, and solemn people.

"Saturday, 15th, much unwell, and in the evening was seized with my old complaints, which lasted some hours; slept but little this night.

"Sunday, 16th, much unwell; preached with great comfort: O that I was more transformed into the image of Christ.

"Wednesday, 19th, attended to the ordination of two deacons of this church.

"Saturday, 22d, married a couple in North Killingworth, and was much enlarged in addressing them, and prayer.

"Sunday, 23d, preached in the Academy in town; and in the evening went to C. Hill, and preached, and my soul was comforted: some of my hearers, particularly an old man, never heard a baptist before.

"Wednesday, 26th, sweet meditation, visited the sick and prayed.

"Sunday, 30th, preached; my mind calm, fruitful, and much engaged.

"October, 2d, rode to Middleton to attend the Danbury Association: preached in the evening, but my mind was much shut up.

"Sunday, 7th, happy in soul; the word was quick and powerful to me, and to appearance had some good effect on others.

"Tuesday, 9th, a dreadful storm of thunder, lightning, rain, snow, and wind. O how terrible will be the day of God's wrath, when heaven, earth, and hell come together! O how may I escape? only by the blood of the Lamb.

"Saturday, 13th, covenant meeting; how different is the church from what it was a little while ago! O that the Lord would overrule for good.

"Sunday, 14th, spake of the doctrine of election with freedom.

"Tuesday, 16th, attended the Stonington Association at Colchester: preached in the evening at Lebanon, and it was a good time to my soul; but I was greatly afflicted with the head ach.

"Wednesday, 17th, this morning a little after day break, a woman came to me with a great desire to be baptized; after her experience was heard and fellowshipped, I baptized her that morning. After the business of the Association was ended, I rode to B— Hill in the rain in the evening, and on the rode my horse was taken lame; a number of people collected, and I preached, but with no great freedom. After meeting rode a few miles to a friend's; much of the head ach.

"Sunday, 21st, I believe I never enjoyed more enlargement and freedom in shewing what was taken away by the coming of Christ, and what was established. It was a happy time at communion. Preached in the evening, but with no great comfort.

"Sunday, 28th, some divine assistance: this has been a good day to me, for which I desire to be thankful.

"Thursday, November 1st, had a severe turn of illness.

"Friday, kept my bed most of the day.

"Sunday, 4th, quite comfortable in shewing what it is to take heed, and what it is to hear. Preached in the evening at Killingworth, and my mind was enlarged and fruitful.

"Saturday, 10th, O how poorly has the week been spent! nothing done for God! The weather so bad that but a few attended covenant meeting. O that the Lord would give me a message for the people tomorrow.

"Sunday, 11th, preached, communed, was comforted and solemn.

"Thursday, 15th, thanksgiving day, preached, and felt the importance of my subject.

"Sunday, 18th, it was comforting to me to treat of the evidence of the spirit.

"Saturday, 24th, looking back on the week past, I find many things to repent of: no strength to perform; to will is present, but how to perform I find not. Much talk about my preaching.

"Sunday, 25th, preached at Killingworth, had a good subject in the forenoon, but not much freedom nor comfort; in the afternoon, some enlarged and comforted. Preached in the meeting house in the evening to a large assembly, and it was a good season to me. O how unfit I am to preach the gospel of Christ!

"Saturday, December 1st, I hardly know how I have spent the week past: not much in religious exercises.

"Sunday, 2d, O how unprepared I am to worship God! Preached from Heb. 9, 16, 17, and found the subject was very important to me: the doctrine of saving grace is a very important doctrine, and the people are much opposed to it: O that the Lord would instruct them into the great and interesting subject.

"Saturday, 8th, covenant meeting, and some singular trials in the church, but they were surmounted.

"Sunday, 9th, great trials in my mind; was greatly shut up in preaching; much tried at communion, but went forward. Married a couple in the evening, and was calm in my mind.

"Sunday, 16th, through manifold trials I passed the last week. Preached in the forenoon with comfort, and in the afternoon with a good degree of union to the great doctrine of sovereign grace.

"Friday, 21st, sat out for Lebanon and staid over night at Colchester; spent the evening in company with a person under exercise of mind about the salvation of the soul.

"Saturday, 22d, arrived at Lebanon before night, and found the people attentive about religion.

"Sunday, 23d, many gathered for meeting; in the forenoon I was greatly enlarged, it was encouraging to see so many people; in the afternoon I was comforted and enlarged. At the request of friends

I preached again in the evening, and had a great desire that sinners might be brought to love Jesus; I endeavored to persuade them to repent. This has been a good day to me, blessed be God. My prayer to God is that the word may take effect. Lord, man can only sow the seed, thou must give the increase. Spent some time in conversation with a number of friends under trials about the situation of the church in that place.

"Monday, 24th, went to Colchester in a snow storm, and preached in the evening; after which I rode two miles.

"Tuesday, 25th, returned home, having, I hope, learned something.

"Sunday, 30th, preached with great freedom. O God wilt thou behold the people for good, and keep them from division. Uncommon good conference meeting at my house this evening.

"Monday, 31st, my mind comfortable in religion."

Thus the reader has had a view of the journal of our friend, with but little mutilation, for two years; from which his labor is obvious, and the power of God in bringing souls to Christ in a number of places is manifest. The design of giving so lengthy and particular extract was to exhibit the work of the Lord, and the arduous labors of a faithful servant of God. If men are to be judged by their works, there can exist but little difficulty in forming an o-

pinion of Mr. Atwell for the time of the above diary. We now shall follow him along through the checkered scenes of his life, and hope to be able to set him forth in no less interesting view to the day of his death.

About the beginning of the year 1805, some of the church at Saybrook, were tried with the doctrine of predestination, which, with other difficulties, rolled on trouble and much anxiety upon his mind; but he faithfully labored with the disaffected brethren, and canvassed the difficulties with much affection and tenderness.

January 27th, he was unwell, and had a violent fit, which lasted some time; but when he recovered his speech he was very happy in his mind, and saw and spake clearly of the glory of Christ.

On February 2d, he complained of being very unwell in body and mind; having recently endured great hardships in travelling and preaching.

An unpleasant difficulty had now arisen among the brethren on the account of Free Masonry; Mr. Atwell had taken the first degree in Masonry, and some were seriously tried on the account: and, on saturday, 9th, the church met in labor, and it was a trying day with our friend. It appears that it was agreed to call a council, to advise with them in their peculiar difficulties. Accordingly on wednesday,

the 20th; a council convened, and religiously considered the subject; and were so happy in their result as to give great satisfaction to the church.

He continued preaching in his several usual places, and was often abundantly refreshed, but some times most bitterly tried on sundry accounts: some could not digest his being a Mason, others were fumbled with his doctrine of sovereign grace, and some were hitched with his political principles. What a strange creature is man! But, having received a letter from a friend in Suffield, to spend some time with the people there, informing him of a great work of God in that place, he concluded to go and visit that part of the vineyard; and accordingly on

April 16th, he sat out early in the morning on his journey, and arrived in Middleton, attended a funeral and preached in the evening with his heart engaged through the love of souls and union to the truth. The next morning he sat out early and arrived at Haddam and took breakfast there. At windsor he called to see a sick man and prayed with him. He arrived at Suffield in time to attend meeting in the afternoon, and in exhortation and prayer he enjoyed a blessed season. In the evening at brother D. Bester's a number of lively souls collected, and a comfortable meeting it was.

Thursday, 18th, in the morning he

went to visit friends, and in prayer his soul was on wing for heaven. In the evening he preached from Rev. 20, 12, with his soul on a spring for glory. He expressed his feelings as having especial travail for souls in the short time as yet with the children of the Highest in Suffield.

Friday, 15th, his soul was very happy in prayer and preaching. Souls were hungry, and his cry of soul, was, that the God of grace might feed them. It was a wonderful time in that place of the out-pouring of God's spirit; and the cry of many souls, was, Lord, make a thorough work, and bring the people in.

Saturday, 20th, he spent this forenoon in visiting, praying, exhorting, and singing; and in the evening he preached to a crowded assembly, notwithstanding it rained hard, and his soul appeared to enjoy the presence of his Master.

Sunday, 21st, he rode to the baptist meeting house and preached from Luke 14, 22; his soul was charmed in shewing that there is yet room, and it was a blesed season; a young woman exhorted with raptures of soul, and proclaimed the joys of believing in Christ. Many appeared to be happy in God, and wonderfully blest. In the afternoon he rode to West Springfield and preached; it rained, but he returned to Suffield to visit friends, and had an agreeable season in prayer and conversation.

Monday, 22d, he was happy in God, and experienced a great travail for souls, and had a blessed season in prayer. In the afternoon he crossed the river to Enfield, and preached to a number of hungry christians, and the power of God appeared to be present; the people were very solemn, and a number of young persons were much affected and wept. He returned back to Suffield, and in the evening preached in the presbyterian meeting house to a great concourse of people. Till about this time this meeting house was sacred to its own denomination, but as light increases in the world, it is discovered that different denominations, may occasionly occupy houses of worship, without profanation. He was much troubled with a pain in his head, but his soul was abundantly refreshed.

Tuesday, 23d, In the morning he met with three presbyterian ministers, and conversed on many important points, but agreed in but few. He then spent some time in visiting, and at four o'clock P. M. sat out for Windsor, and preached in the baptist meeting house there, but with no great freedom, yet not altogether without comfort.

Wednesday, he sat out early for home, and lodged in Haddam, the rain preventing his going any further. He found a great alteration here; just two years ago this day, he baptized eighteen persons in this

place, and the people were engaged in religion, but now but a few turn out to hear the word.

Thursday, he arrived at home.

Sunday, May 5th, he preached at Guilford and baptized one person. He found his mind barren and tried; some people were very desirous to hear him preach, while others seemed afraid of him on account of his political principles. It is best, no doubt, for all ministers of the gospel to be careful about preaching politics.

Sunday, 12th, he had very serious reflections about the circumstances of himself and the people: he complains of the things of this world taking him too much from the ministry, and of the people being asleep, or careless about the things of the kingdom.

About this time he experienced a good favor from his Master, who stirred up the people to relieve his necessities, and he had provided him sundry important comforts of life. A sense of this being the Lord's doings excited his soul to renew covenant with God. The laborer is worthy of his hire, and though this is the case, yet unless the Lord moves on the forgetful minds of the people, the minister will be neglected; or, if he has any thing furnished for his necessities, it will be called *a gift* but that which any one is entitled to by right, cannot be considered a gift from man.

Monday, 27th, being on a visit to Lebanon, he visited two unfortunate young women, who were confined with sickness, one eleven, and the other eight years. The scene was solemn, and many were affected.

Sunday, June 29th, he preached at Guilford, and baptized one person, and a great crowd attended the administration of the ordinance, and it was a time of refreshing.

Tuesday, July 30th, being on a visit to East Guilford, nine young porsons came to the house where he called, and their enquiry was what they should do to be saved: he conversed freely with them, giving them instructions, and then prayed with and for them.

Thursday, August 22d, he sat out again for Suffield. At Middleton and Hartford he met with agreeable entertainment, and arrived at Suffield in the evening: the people were assembled for meeting, and he enjoyed a good season.

Friday, 23d, he preached with great freedom; many wept, and some rejoiced.

Saturday, 24th, he crossed the river to Enfield, and found many waiting to hear the word. It was not his calculation to have tarried here over the sabbath, but his appointment being providentially supplied, and Mr. T. Knight having lost his wife, he staid at Enfield on sunday and attended the funeral. It was a solemn day. His soul was greatly refreshed; the saints

were comforted, and some sinners appeared to be awakened. He attended conference in the evening and had the satisfaction to hear many speak of the goodness of God to them.

Monday, 26th, he was much unwell in the morning, and at eleven o'clock was seized with a violent fit, but by the goodness of God, and medical aid he recovered. Though weak, he preached, and was not for many months more carried out of himself; and never had so affectionate parting with friends: many wept when he bid them farewell, which reminded him of Paul's words, 'What mean you to break my heart?' Many followed him to his lodgings; some sung, some prayed, and some wept.

Tuesday, 27th, he went over to Suffield, and preached in the evening; he was happy, and many of the brethren were comforted and spake of the goodness of the Lord. He was very weak, but strong in the Lord his God.

Wednesday, 28th a young man in the house where he lodged, this morning was brought out in religion. This afternoon, in much weakness, he preached, and it was a melting time with the people. This evening in meeting ten young persons were present under conviction; they confessed, and asked for prayers: and a number of young persons exhorted with great engagedness.

166665

Thursday, 29th, he was to have preached in Springfield, but the rain prevented.

Friday, 30th, he took an affectionate leave of his friends in Suffield, and rode to Windsor and preached in the afternoon and evening: he was much unwell, and rested but little this night.

Saturday, 31th, he was unwell, but sat out for Hartford, and on the way called at a house where was a funeral of a transient person. He arrived at Hartford in the afternoon much unwell, but enjoyed agreeable conversation with brother Bolles.

Sunday, September 1st, he preached at Hartford; and on monday journeyed toward home, and after preaching several times on the way, he arrived to his family on thursday, having been gone fifteen days, and preached fourteen times.

Sunday, 15th, he was much unwell, having for a number of days been afflicted with the rheumatism, and on this day he he attempted to preach but once, and that in much pain, and without much divine aid.

Sunday, 29th, he had an appointment to preach at Guilford, designing to go from thence to attend the Danbury Association, but was prevented by sickness, and he was very weak for several days.

Monday, October 7th, this morning at five o'clock he was called upon to visit a young woman very sick and nigh unto death: he found her not very clearly lead

into the system of religion; he instructed her and prayed. In the afternoon he was called again, when she appeared to be more reconciled. The next day she died.

He still continued to preach at the usual places, passing through different scenes, and meeting with various experience.

Thursday, November 1st, he sat out for Enfield and lodged at Middleton. The next day he rode in the rain to Hartford; and on saturday arrived at Enfield about noon, and had an agreeable meeting of friends. On sunday he preached, and it was a good season. At conference in the evening the Lord was present, and gave a refreshing season from his presence. On monday he preached with great liberty; and had a happy interview in conversation till late in the evening. On thursday he found brethren at another part of the town, and preached to a large collection of people, appearing to be uncommonly serious. This was a blessed meeting. After preaching he spent some time in talking and singing, and then took a solemn parting with a number of dear brethren. On wednesday he sat out for home, and visited and prayed with friends on the way. Some were found to be under conviction.

About this time unhappy difficulties existed in the church at Saybrook, and much labor was taken to reconcile offended and

offending brethren; but the people not having the Lord with them as in a short time back, mole heaps were mountains, and the enemy made inroads among them, to the disaffection of chief friends; but Mr. Atwell, it appears, felt stirred up in his soul to a renewed walk with God, and cried out, "O! my soul live to God's glory in this world." He preached in sundry places as usual, finding many low in their minds, but some seeking the Lord Jesus Christ.

Friday, January 17th, 1806, he sat out again for Enfield; it was very cold, and he lodged at Middleton. The next day he arrived at Enfield, cold, and much fatigued, but was refreshed in the company of friends. On saturday he was comforted and calm; had a meeting in the evening, but not much enjoyment. Sunday, very cold, and a severe storm of snow, but the people collected, and he preached; in the forenoon straitened, but in the afternoon, and evening, refreshed. On monday he rode to the east part of the town to preach and notwithstanding the storm, many collected. This was a good season. After preaching he conversed with a number of youth, and his prayer was, that God would impress their minds, with truth. On tuesday he preached at Windsor. On Wednesday he preached in Enfield. On thursday was a very severe snow storm, preventing any meeting. On friday he-

fore night the roads were so broken as that he rode seven miles and preached in the evening. On saturday he returned and met with the church, and eight persons were received into fellowship, and it was a solemn time.

Sunday, 26th, he preached and administered the Lord's supper, and it was a day of great joy with the brethren. In the evening it was judged two hundred people collected at conference meeting, and the place was none other than the house of God and gate of heaven. Monday he spent in visiting, till evening, when he met the people to confer on his moving among them, and they were uncommonly agreed. On tuesday he preached in the afternoon and in the evening, and the spirit of the Lord appeared to be among the people.

Wednesday, this morning he was much unwell, but he spent the day in visiting, conversation and prayer. He found one young woman who had made one in the gay circle of life, acknowledging that all her days had been spent in vanity, and that she had not thought of God, nor the concerns of her soul till of late. She now in a public manner renounced the vanities of youth, and engaged in the things of religion. He rode to W. H. Point and preached to a crowded auditory, and though feeble in body, yet his soul was strong in the Lord. The next day he

journeyed for home, and arrived there on friday.

He preached as usual with the people in his circuit of preaching, till April 18th, when he sat out for Enfield again: he had an agreeable visit, and returned home on the next thursday. Things being arranged in a most cordial agreement, he now is about to take his leave of his people, to move to Enfield. And on Sunday, May 4th, he preached his farewell sermon.

On wednesday he and his family sat out for Enfield and lodged at Middleton. On thursday they arrived safe at Enfield to his house. In this place the people have a house, barn, and a few acres of land for the purpose of accomadating their minister. On the next day many were very kind, and sent him in much for the comfort of his family.

In this place he now regularly administered in holy things, settling in the work of the ministry according to the usages of the baptist denomination. With this church he continued the remainder of his life as their pastor: but, his labors were not altogether confined here, he visited many other places, preaching the word of life. Many things of lesser consequence will be passed over in these memoirs, but whatever is judged material will in no case be omitted.

The baptist church in Enfield had nearly lost its visibility in a time of declension,

but now the Lord began to revive his work among them and to add to their numbers. This is an uncommon difficult place for a minister of Christ; the people have been abundantly instructed, and by many different teachers; each one thinks he knows what preaching is; and, they are of many opinions. That a preacher here should meet with no peculiar trials, could never be expected; but the Lord supported his servant, and blessed his labors abundantly. In this town is a worthy presbyterian clergyman, which would naturally prevent the baptist society from increasing, as in those places where the houses and preachers are considerably alike wooden. But notwithstanding, many flocked to hear the word from Mr At. well, and his admirers and friends became very numerous.

A few days after his coming to this place there was a large collection at his house, and he had eightytwo runs of yarn, and fifteen pounds of flax presented to him for the convenience of his family.

Friday, 30th, the church met in conference, were in harmony, and received one member.

Wednesday, June 4th, he preached with clear views of the system of religion; and afterwards baptized one sister.

Friday, 6th, he called at a gentleman's house and received a present of a number of dollars to purshase a bible.

Saturday, August 9th, the church met in conference, and a good degree of union was apparent; five members were received into fellowship. On Sunday he preached on the subject of baptism with freedom, and then went to the water and baptized four persons. About this time several young persons appeared to be under conviction.

Thursday, 28th, he rode to Longmeadow and preached to a number of people, and in the evening preached again, and seldom did he enjoy more of divine assistance. The next day he visited and prayed with the people, and found some under conviction. A few in the eastern part of this town, had for a long time been praying for a revival of religion, but the prospect had been very small: a great neglect of religious duties prevailed, and many even made a mock of divine things; but now the Lord is about to visit them with his salvation.

Thursday, September 11th, he visited and conversed with a woman in her ninety-fourth year, whose mind was led into the ordinance of baptism.

Sunday, 14th, was a day of joy and rejoicing to his soul; after preaching he baptized one person.

Thursday, 18th, he rode to Ellington and preached to a large number of people; and then baptized a woman who was ninety three years old last March: a singular instance indeed.

Sunday, 21st, he was in Hartford. His labors this day were, preached three times, baptized one man, broke bread to the church, and prayed eleven times.

Sunday, 28th, he preached with liberty of soul, and baptized three persons.

Saturday, October 11th, a happy covenant meeting; one person was received, and baptized the next day.

Sunday, 19th, he preached in Westfield, and baptized one person. This day he preached three times, baptized one, broke bread, and prayed twelve times.

Sunday, 26th, he preached with a pleasing prospect before him, and then baptized one man. He conceived he beheld the buddings of a reformation, and prayed that he might not be deceived.

Sunday, November 9th, he visited his brethren in Saybrook, and had a happy meeting with them.

December, 30th, he rode to Longmeadow, and preached a funeral sermon of a man whose sickness and death were uncommon. A great solemnity appeared to be on the minds of the people. This instance of mortality appeared to be blessed in producing an uncommon seriousness on the minds of many, and was one of the means of producing a glorious reformation in this place.

February 5th, he went again to Longmeadow and preached; and in the evening the people collected again, and he ad-

dressed them with soul-ravishing views of Christ. On the next day it snowed, but an assembly collected, and again he preached the word unto them. At this time an uncommon attention to the things of religion had taken place here, and the Lord in the power of his Spirit was among the people.

March 5th, he visited the people in Longmeadow again and preached to them; there were many solemn faces and weeping eyes. He spent the evening in conference meeting; and, the next day in the forenoon he visited those who were under conviction, and in the afternoon he met the people again and preached to them, and it was a melting time: in the evening he conversed with a man under conviction.

Thursday, 19th, he went to Longmeadow in the evening, and attended conference; and it appeared that the Lord was marvellously to work, many solemn persons attended. This meeting did not close until midnight. The next day he visited a number of friends, and prayed with an old lady who appeared at the gate of heavenly bliss. In the afternoon the people collected and he preached to them from Ruth 1, 16, 17. In the evening many assembled again for conference, and the power of God was evident in convicting sinners, and awakening saints. This was a solemn and glorious season to his soul.

Sunday, 29th, he rode in a snow storm to Somers, nigh unto Longmeadow, and the people collected in great numbers, attentive and solemn. In the forenoon his mind was greatly enlarged and his soul drawn out in preaching, but before he concluded his discourse he was seized with a violent pain in his head, and distress at his vitals, with puking, and he was not able to preach in the afternoon. On monday he visited a number of young persons under conviction, and prayed with them. In the afternoon he preached in Longmeadow to a mixed multitude: some were old disciples, some young converts, some under conviction, and some amazed.—Meeting again in the evening, the people were engaged for salvation, and with pleasure they ran together, when ever they could find food for their souls. The next day it snowed uncommonly tedious for the time of year. He prayed, sung, and heard experiences, without much intermission till afternoon, when he rode three miles, and the people collected, notwithstanding the storm, and he preached to them with great enlargement and comfort: he was much unwell when he began the meeting, but much refreshed at the close. April 1st, he spent in visiting, prayer, and hearing experience. The people met this evening for conference, and it was a refreshing season. Thursday, 2d, this morning he was much unwell, and sat out for home.

K

Thursday, 9th, he went to Longmeadow again, and preached, and heard a number of young converts tell of the goodness of the Lord to them.

Monday, 13th, he again visited Longmeadow, and found the people much engaged, and preached in the evening to them. A number of persons spake for God as witnesses of the truth.

Thursday, 16th, he rode to Longmeadow again, and preached to a crowded assembly, and the grace of God refreshed his soul. In the evening he attended meeting again.

Friday, 17th, he preached in Somers, and the power of God was manifested in the conviction of one man.

May 8th, he rode to Longmeadow and met a number of dear friends in conference, and he endeavored to comfort them by exhorting them to walk with God. Saturday, 9th, he spent in visiting and praying with the people. Sunday, 10th, a large number met, and he preached to them in the forenoon from Matt. 25, 23; and in the afternoon from the 10th verse of the same chapter; his mind was greatly enlarged, the people were solemn, and God was in the place. In the evening they had an exceeding comfortable conference meeting. Monday he spent in visiting and prayer until three o'clock and then met the people in a part of Somers and preached to them: this meeting was

by the request of a woman long confined by the loss of the use of her limbs; his soul was greatly comforted, and others appeared to be blessed. A meeting in the evening was very remarkable; God in very deed was among the people. On tuesday he conversed with some just born into the kingdom of Christ, and others enquiring the way; prayed with a number and returned home in the evening.

Thursday, 21st, a large number of friends met at his house, and made him a number of handsome presents for his family.

Friday, 22d, he rode to Longmeadow and a number presented him with forty-seven runs of yarn, he preached both at Enfield and Longmeadow on the occasions.

Thursday, 28th, he went to Longmeadow, and met the people, and preached, to them from Rom. 6, 17, and enjoyed a good season. The next day some persons informed him of their minds being lead into baptism.

Saturday, June 6th, he went to Longmeadow with a number of brethren, and received six persons into fellowship as candidates for baptism. Sunday, he preached in a part of Somers, and afterwards received two more into fellowship for baptism, and then went to the water and baptized nine persons. These nine with three others were received into the church.

Wednesday, 10th, he attended the or-

dination of brother A. Hanks, at Westfield, and preached in the evening with much of divine aid. The next day he preached in Suffield, and then returned home.

Sunday, 14th, he preached and broke bread to the church; it was a blessed season of refreshing from the presence of the Lord.

Saturday, 20th, after laboring hard in the field until nearly night, he was called upon to visit a sick person; he lodged at the house all night, and early next morning rode to Somers to preach; the house was much crowded, and there were many that could not get in to hear. In the afternoon he preached in the open air, the assembly being so large that the people could not be convened in the house. He preached again in the evening. On monday he visited the sick; and the next day he went to Longmeadow and had a very agreeable time in preaching there.

Friday, 26th he preached in Wilbraham, and had one of the best seasons; the Lord was evidently among the people. The next day he returned home, and attended church conference, and received one person for baptism.

Sunday, 28th, after preaching in the forenoon and afternoon, he rode about nine miles to Somers, and at four o'clock preached a funeral sermon, attended at the grave, and addressed the people. His

labors this day were great, but the Lord supported him.

Saturday, July 4th, he rode to Longmeadow, and for Independence, met the members of the church in that place, and agreed to attend table communion. Three persons were received for baptism. The next day he preached to an astonishing crowd of people; it was the opinion of some that fifteen hundred were present: and they were uncommonly solemn. He then went to the water and baptized nine persons; and, received eleven into the church. God in a wonderful manner helped him this day. At communion the church was very solemn; and about five hundred spectators attended.

Friday, 17th, he rode to Longmeadow again, and met the church, and received one person into fellowship. The next day they met for baptism, received three persons, and after sermon by elder Shepard, seven persons were baptized by Mr. Atwell. This night he was unwell and much in pain.

Sunday, 19th, he rode to Stafford and preached to a large concourse of people; and, although he was very weak, yet God in a wonderful manner supported him in speaking. His audience was a mixed company of many denominations, yet they were solemn and attentive.

Saturday, August 1st, he met the branch of the church at Longmeadow, and

found a happy union existing; two persons were received into fellowship. The next day after preaching, he baptized two persons, and then broke bread to the church; all of which was performed in the open air.

Tuesday, 11th, he went to West Springfield and preached in the evening, and was blest with freedom in speaking.

Thursday, 20th, he preached in Springfield from 1 Peter 2, 7, and then baptized one person. It was a very rainy day, yet many people attended the solemn ordinance, and it was a comfortable time with the brethren.

Friday, 21st, it rained hard until three o'clock; he then rode to Longmeadow and preached, and many were much refreshed.

Saturday, 22d, it rained hard till some time in the afternoon, he then sat out for Wilbraham, and met the church in that place in conference. The next day he preached to a large concourse of people, and enjoyed a good season. He attended communion, and it was not a lost opportunity. He then rode about four miles and preached again, and it was a blessed season.

Sunday, 30th, he was much unwell, but preached three times.

Saturday, September 5th, he attended church meeting at Longmeadow, and received one person for baptism. The next

day after preaching, one person was received, and then he baptized two, and administered the Lord's supper.

Wednesday, 9th, he preached a funeral sermon in Somers, spake at the grave, and preached again in the evening.

Tuesday, 15th, he preached a funeral sermon at Somers, from Amos 4, 12, and the spirit of God appeared to assist in speaking at the house and at the grave. The next day he visited, and prayed with a sick woman; and, on thursday he called again, and found she had just expired; he prayed with the family, and rode to Longmeadow and preached from 1 John 1, 3, and experienced a refreshing season. In the evening the people enjoyed the blessing of God in prayer meeting.

Thursday, 24th, in the afternoon, and in the evening, he met the people at Springfield, and had blessed seasons in preaching to them.

Thursday, October 1st, at Sturbridge, before the Association, he preached with great freedom and enlargement of soul.

Friday, 2d, he preached at Wilbraham with joy and liberty.

Saturday, 3d, he met the church at Longmeadow with great comfort, and preached to them the next day, and attended communion.

Sunday, 11th, he preached with union to truth, baptized one person, and had a comfortable season at communion.

Wednesday, 14th, he preached at East Windsor from Acts 8, 35, and his soul found peace in Christ.

Monday, 26th, he preached a funeral sermon at Somers; and, on thursday on like occasion he preached at Wilbraham.

Monday, November 16th, he visited the people in Wilbraham, and preached to them from 1 Peter 4, 18, greatly in the affection and fellowship of the brethren.

Sunday, 29th, he preached, but it was a day of trouble to his soul.

December 1st, he was carried to prison in Hartford for debt.

The reader will here have the reflections of our friend, while in jail, from his own pen. On the day of his arrest he says,

"I was almost insensible, for some time to-day, of every object about me: the thoughts of my family and people would force themselves upon me, and for a moment rouse my attention, and keep me from dispair. I employed a few moments this morning in writing to the dear church and people in Longmeadow, and then took a solemn leave of some brethren.

"Dec. 22d, for the twenty days past I have enjoyed some comfort in reading profitable books, in writing to friends, and in various other ways. Some times I enjoyed freedom and enlargement in praying for Zion in general, and my distressed family and friends.

"Dec. 23d, this morning some friends visited and refreshed me; my mind is solemn, and I long to be released that I may preach to the dear people again. O God, if ever I again visit my people I pray that the Holy Ghost may enable me to be like Titus, or a cloud full of rain.

"Dec. 24th, this morning I saw a man whipped publicly for transgressing the laws of man, which made me beg of God to preserve me from the like sin, and all sin. I went to rest at eleven o'clock weary with seeing what takes place in this world.

"Dec. 25th, this day is christmas; O that my soul may enjoy communion with Jesus! but I had no great enjoyment of God to-day.

"Dec. 26th, I am in suspense; the money left for my support will be gone this afternoon at five o'clock, and if no more is sent I shall be at liberty.

"Monday, 27th, at ten o'clock A. M. I took my departure for home, and arrived before sun-set, to the great joy of my family and friends."

On wednesday he preached in Longmeadow from Acts 12, 17, *But he beckoning unto him with the hand to hold their peace, declared unto them how the Lord had brought him out of prison. And he said, Go shew these things unto James, and unto the brethren. And he departed, and went into another place.*

Sunday, January 10th, 1808, he preached at Longmeadow, administered the supper, and received one person into fellowship.

Wednesday, 13th, he visited a family in affliction, having had a child two years old badly burnt.

Tuesday, 19th, he visited and prayed with a person in great distress of mind.

Thursday, 21st, in the afternoon and evening he preached in Springfield, and had a very agreeable time.

Wednesday, 27th, he rode to Stafford and met the people in the afternoon, and had a refreshing season in preaching, then, and in the evening also. The next day he preached in Somers to a solemn audience, and returned home.

Sunday, February 7th, he preached in Longmeadow from Heb. 9, 17, and then baptized two persons, and had a happy communion.

Monday, 8th, he preached in the congregational meeting house in the south parish in Wilbraham, to a large assembly, and then baptized ten persons. He preached again in the evening, his discourse was short, but powerful; he then in behalf of the baptist church in that place, gave the right hand of fellowship to those baptized that day. The next day he preached in Stafford; and on wednesday he preached in Somers.

Friday, 19th, he visited Wilbraham a-

gain, and preached from 1 Peter 2, 7, with freedom, and it was a solemn time with the people: he then baptized four persons, and preached again in the evening.

Sunday, 21st, he preached in the day time and in the evening in Stafford, many people attended to hear and it was a good day to him. The next day he preached in the evening in Somers, with a solemn soul, and prayed with a family that had two children dead in the house.

Monday, March 14th, he rode to Wilbraham, and preached to the people from Luke 5, 28, with freedom, and then baptized three persons: a number appeared greatly distressed for their souls, and made a great outcry in the assembly. In the evening many collected for conference meeting. Three persons this day were hopefully converted in meeting. The next day he was much unwell, but rode to Monson, and preached in the new congregational meeting house to a large assembly, with divine aid and comfort.

Wednesday, 16th, he rode to Stafford in the rain, and met the people at two o' clock, and preached from Mark 1, 15; his bodily infirmity would not admit of his speaking but a few minutes; he then baptized one person. This evening he was seized with a violent fit of his old disorder, a physician was called, who advised him not to preach so frequently, or the

consequences would be serious: he found relief by letting of blood and medicine, but rested but little. The next day he kept his bed some hours, but rode six miles, and although feeble, he preached in the evening to a large assembly, and was assisted beyond expectation.

Friday, April 1st, he rode to Wilbraham and met the church in that place, and heard the experience of seven young persons for baptism, and after preaching he baptized them, three of whom were under fourteen years of age. On saturday he met the church in Longmeadow, and found them happily united; the next day he administered unto them. On monday he visited and prayed with two persons, one deprived of the use of limbs, and the other in great distress of mind.

Sunday, 10th, in the intermission, he baptized one person, and after preaching again, broke bread to the church.

Tuesday, 19th, he rode to Tolland, and preached with a good degree of comfort of mind. The next day he preached a funeral sermon from Amos 4, 12; and the Lord was present with him. In the afternoon he sat out for Saybrook and lodged at Hebron. On thursday he arrived at Saybrook and visited a number of old brethren; the next day he delivered a funeral discourse on the death of one of the church in that place.

Friday, 29th, he was at Wilbraham, and

preached to the people from John 1, 29, and was greatly comforted. Afterward he baptized three persons, and was very happy in presenting them the right hand of fellowship.

Saturday, 30th, he met the church at Longmeadow, and received three persons into fellowship for baptism. The next day he preached from Gal. 6, 8, with great enlargement of soul and comfort of mind; he then baptized five persons with peculiar satisfaction, and was much refreshed in giving the right hand of fellowship. It was a solemn time at communion.

Tuesday, May 10th, he rode to Granby and preached from Job 7, 17.

Sunday, 15th, he preached in Stafford, and was called upon to preach two funeral sermons the next day.

Saturday, 28th, he rode to Wilbraham, and met the church in covenant meeting, and baptized one person.

Sunday, June 5th, he preached in Longmeadow, and baptized one person.

Saturday, 11th, he met the church in covenant meeting with peculiar satisfaction, and received one person, who was baptized the next day.

Monday, 13th, a number of ladies and gentlemen met at his house with presents for his family; they then went to the meeting house and he preached to them from Matt. 25, 40.

Saturday, 18th, he visited the sick in

Ellington, and the next day preached in Stafford.

Wednesday, 22d, he preached in Wilbraham, and baptized one man; it was a season long to be remembered.

Wednesday, August 24th, he rode to Ellington, and met the people for the purpose of preaching, but in the exercise of prayer, he fainted, and was laid on a bed, and had a distressing fit for about an hour and a half.

Tuesday, 30th, in Springfield he baptized a woman, and in the evening preached from Prov. 8, 4; the people were very solemn, and some appeared enquiring their duty.

Saturday, September 3d, in Longmeadow he preached a funeral sermon; and then met the church in covenant meeting, and received four persons for baptism; these were own natural sisters: the next day they were baptized. On monday he preached in Monson; and, again, on thursday he preached a funeral sermon in that place.

Monday, 19th, he rode to Wilbraham and preached, and then baptized one person.

Saturday, 24th, he preached at Stafford and baptized four persons.

Wednesday, 28th, he preached before the Association at Leicester, from Job 7, 17.

Saturday, October 1st, he met the

church in covenant meeting at Longmeadow, received two persons into fellowship, and baptized them next day.

Friday, 4th, he preached in Stafford with great liberty, baptized one person, and then gave the hand of fellowship to three.

Sunday, 16th, he preached in Stafford, especially to the youth from Eccle. 12, 1; this was a melting season, many of the youth were in tears, and all were solemn. In the evening at conference some were weeping, and it was a blessed season.

Tuesday, 25th, he was in Stafford again, baptized nine persons, and preached in the evening from Eph. 6, 11, and God was pleased to grant his presence and power to attend the word. He attended with the people in the village in conference about forming a church; and on friday, after brother Bloss had preached, he baptized three persons, and was uncommonly happy in meeting in the evening.

Sunday, November 6th, he preached in Longmeadow with much pain of body, but happiness of soul: he then baptized one person, and broke bread to the church.

Friday, 11th, he had a fit of his old disorder, which left him very weak.

Monday, 14th, with great comfort he preached to the people in Stafford, baptized one person, and gave the right hand of fellowship to two. In the evening he was seized with a violent fit, which lasted two hours.

Saturday, 26th, he rode to Stafford, preached, and baptized one person.

Tuesday, December 6th, with his soul happy in God, he preached in Stafford from Luke 14, 22, and then baptized one man.

Thursday, 29th, he rode to Stafford in a snow storm, and the next day met the people at twelve o'clock, and preached to them from Rom. 1, 16, and then baptized seven persons; the weather was exceeding cold, but as the day was, so was his strength. He then rode two miles in the evening and preached to a large collection of people. On saturday morning at nine o'clock he baptized a young man, and then rode to Longmeadow.

Sunday, January 1st, 1809, he preached in Longmeadow with freedom, received four persons into the church, and then broke bread.

Saturday, 14th, he was in Stafford, and preached from Acts 17, 11, and then baptized two men; this was an exceeding cold day, but his Master supported him. Several persons in this place were under conviction, and many were brought to the knowledge of the truth.

Tuesday, 24th, he preached a funeral sermon in Wilbraham, and spake at the grave.

From this time the reader will hear no more of Mr. Atwell preaching in the south part of Wilbraham, and will be nat-

ually inclined to enquire the reason. We should be happy in not finding it duty to publish the singular cause; but, it appears right to state the facts. In this place the Lord revived his work with mighty power, and our friend's labors were greatly blest among the people: great numbers could nearly pluck out their eyes for his sake; but, in the midst of all this it was discovered that he was A FREE AND ACCEPTED MASON!!! this, merely through ignorance, was deemed a crime of no small magnitude by some, and the church now called *the baptist church in Wilbraham and Monson*, passed a particular vote in the case, which barred and bolted the door against him, and against all Masons. We would ask these beloved brethren if they know what masonry is? if they answer in the affirmative, they are Masons themselves; but if negatively, then how exists their skill to discern a great evil in that which they know nothing about? *Lord, what is man?* Immediately after this took place, the Lord withdrew his Spirit, and the work was greatly on the decline. Our present design is not vindicate masonry, but to plead the rights of one of the once best of brothers in the ministry, whose *noble, generous* soul was formed for that congenial friendship, which grovelling minds can never know; a friend, persecuted by unrelenting ignorance.

Saturday, 27th, he rode to Stafford, at-

tended church meeting and gave the right hand of fellowship to one person. The next day he preached to a large assembly with great liberty, gave the hand of fellowship to two persons, and broke bread to the church. In the evening he preached in Ellington to a crowded assembly.

Tuesday, April 24th, he rode to Stafford and preached from Phil. 4, 4, and his soul was comforted; he then went to the water and baptized two persons.

Wednesday, June 14th, a number of gentlemen and ladies came to his house, and made him presents of a number of articles very useful for the comfort of his family.

Thursday, 15th, he preached in Tolland with a solemn mind, and went to the water and administered baptism.

Wednesday, 28th, at Amherst, he met the people and preached from John 1, 36, with pleasure, and the audience was very solemn. He then went to the water and baptized one young woman.

Sunday, July 2d, he preached in Longmeadow, baptized one, and administered the supper.

Sunday, 9th, he preached, and baptized one young woman. One person was found under conviction.

Wednesday, 12th, he preached in Tolland, and baptized one person.

Saturday, 29th, he preached in Stafford,

and baptized three persons: his soul was greatly comforted.

Sunday, 30th, he preached at Longmeadow, and baptized a man eighty years old.

Saturday, August 12th, he met the church in Longmeadow, found them in union, and received one brother into covenant.

Sunday, September 3d, after he began his sermon he was taken unwell, and obliged to leave the house.

Saturday, February 10th, 1810, he rode to Longmeadow and met the church in covenant meeting in union, and in the evening he was taken in a fit. On sunday he was unable to preach, and was distressingly unwell all day.

Sunday, April 8th, he preached at Longmeadow, and baptized one man.

Friday, 28th, fast day, he preached in the forenoon and afternoon, and baptized one person, and was much comforted.

Wednesday, May 25th, he attended an ordination, and made the ordaining prayer.

Monday, 30th, a number of ladies and gentlemen met at his house with presents for his family, they then went to the meeting house and he preached to them from 2. Cor. 9, 12.

Wednesday, June 20th, he attended an ordination in Belchertown, was chosen moderator of the council, and to give the

charge: many people attended, the day was fine, and the order religiously beautiful.

Sunday, July 1st, he preached in Longmeadow, and baptized a woman.

Sunday, October 14th, he preached in Longmeadow from John 14, 22, and it was a time of comfort and enlargement to his soul: he then baptized one sister, and received one brother by letter from the church now called of Wilbraham and Monson. The peculiarity which caused the vote in this church affecting Mr. Atwell, as mentioned above, caused this brother to remove his relation, believing where the Spirit of the Lord is there is liberty.

Saturday, March 16th, 1811, he was unwell and kept his bed most of the day; the next day he rode to Longmeadow, was unable to preach, but baptized one person.

Thursday, May 9th he preached in Longmeadow, and a number of ladies made him a liberal present for his family.

Monday, 13th, he assisted in constituting a church at Springfield.

Thursday, June 20th, he rode to Stafford and preached, and baptized three persons.

Friday, November 1st, while helping a neighbor, he wounded his left knee severely, with which he was lame a considerable time.

Sunday, 24th, he preached at Longmeadow with great freedom, and baptized one man.

Tuesday and Wednesday, March 17th and 18th, 1812, he attended a council with the first baptist church in Suffield; it was a very important season to the church: the writer of these memoirs was the clerk of the above council, and our result was received with the strongest expressions of satisfaction; the praying souls and melting eyes the Lord was pleased to notice, and salvation was renewed in many souls: this church followed our advice, and as an evidence that we were in the mind of heaven, the Holy Spirit was outpoured in that place, and a goodly number of precious souls fell in love with Jesus and his cause.

About this time the Lord stirred up a number in their minds in Longmeadow, but the adversary was very busy, which prevented such professions of Christ as was expected: some, it appears, believed that believers baptized by immersion, is the true water baptism, and that unbaptized persons should not approach the communion of the supper; yet they were so unfortunate as not to see that the door of communion should be shut, upon these premises, against all but believers baptized by immersion, and this was a hinderance to them, yet truth prevailed in a number of instances.

Wednesday, April 22d, he rode to Suffield and preached, and observes, "The Lord is at work in the minds of the people wonderfully in this place. In the evening attended a happy conference meeting, and heard a number of persons relate the work of grace on their hearts."

Friday, 24th, at the north part of Wilbraham he was present, and a number of brethren and sisters were received into fellowship as a branch of the church at Enfield and Longmeadow. These were the remnant of the church in that place formerly, but dissolved for the want of discipline; it was hoped that these few would have been faithful.

Sunday, May 3d, he preached in Suffield, and says, "The Lord is in a wonderful manner bringing in souls to gospel liberty."

Saturday, 9th, he met the church at Longmeadow, all was harmony, and five persons were received and baptized the next day.

Thursday, June 25th, was the day that the writer was ordained, Mr. Atwell was moderator of the council, and in a very affectionate and acceptable manner gave the charge; the day was rainy, but a great crowd attended, and the greatest harmony prevailed.

Saturday, July 4th, he rode to Longmeadow, met with the church, and received three persons into fellowship, and

the next day two were baptized. It was a blessed season with the brethren.

Sunday, 19th, he preached at Longmeadow, and baptized one person.

Sunday, September 19th, he was with the church at Longmeadow, preached and baptized one person.

Thursday, October 1st, he preached at an ordination in Hardwick with great joy.

Sunday, November 8th, he preached in Longmeadow and baptized one person.

February 1st, 1813, he attended a council at Stafford.

Saturday, 6th, he was taken unwell at Longmeadow, and could not preach on sunday, but was able to return home on monday.

Saturday, September 4th, he met the church in Longmeadow, received two persons into fellowship, and baptized them the next day. This was the last time that he administered the ordinance of baptism.

Saturday, January 1st, 1814, he cried out, "I want a new heart to worship God." Thus far we have laid before the reader the most interesting events of the life of Mr. Atwell; and though many times and seasons for preaching the word, are not mentioned, yet he was never idle: where mention is made of his presence, and no place is named, it it to be remembered that he officiated in the town where he resided. He often preached in all the neighboring towns; and much more fre-

quent than what we have written; a wide field was before him.

In the course of the year past a prosecution was commenced against him for celebrating of the ordinance of marriage, which was first instigated by a man whose character needs not much comment where ever he is known. We are told that the same creature once threatened a worthy presbyterian minister for marrying, yet nothing was done; but now complaint is lodged against our friend. And, as we have received the particulars of this affair in a communication from the Post Master in Enfield, we shall lay the facts before the public in the words of the communication, as follows:

"In this enlightened age, in a country so renowned for civil and religious liberty as the United States, with such ample provisions as most of the state governments have made for the security of liberty of conscience and equal rights and privileges; where the benign effects of these salutary measures are so generally conspicuous, producing the greatest harmony among christians of every denomination, one would suppose that an advocate for religious intolerance could not be found: especially when history is so replete with its baneful effects in society: much less would it be supposed that any body of men, having influence and authority sufficient, could be found so unprincipled and

wickedly depraved, as to give it the sanction of law. But to the disgrace of the state of Connecticut, this is the case: as will briefly appear by the following narative.

"The Rev. George Atwell, after having been previously ordained to the work of the gospel ministry, according to the principles of the baptist constitution, in the month of April, 1805, he removed from Saybrook and settled in Enfield, as pastor of the baptist church in that town at their particular request. The society over which Mr. Atwell now took pastoral charge, was composed chiefly of baptists, together with the remnant of an ancient separating congregational society. This society which had been for a long time in a declining condition, now revived and flourished exceedingly under the ministry of Mr. Atwell, whose amiable manners, conciliating temper, christian deportment, and faithful discharge of pastoral duties, gained him universal respect, and greatly endeared him to his church and society. He continued in the full exercise of the functions of his ministry, with many visible evidences of the success of his labors; occasionly officiating, as is usual with ordained clergymen, in the performance of the marriage ceremony, not only among the people of his own society, but wherever requested in any part of the county in which he lived, agreeable to the laws of

the state of Connecticut; until the summer of 1813, when to his surprise and astonishment an action was instituted against him by the atorney for the state in the county of Hartford, for having joined in marriage two members of his society. And, at the following March term of the county court, judgment was rendered against him, notwithstanding the most unequivocal evidence was exhibited of his legal qualifications; viz, a regular ordination, and settlement, agreeable to the baptist constitution.

"The result of this trial, as might be supposed, occasioned strong sensations among the friends of civil and religious liberty. By many it was received as a premeditated attack upon the baptist societies in the state, and but an incipient step towards the abridgment of their most important rights and privileges. Of this opinion was Mr. Atwell, who was often heard to exclaim, *that the personal effect of this persecution, although very grievous and distressing, was by no means equal to that which the cause of Christ sustained from this violent outrage upon the rights and privileges of the baptist denomination.* And so affecting were these considerations on his mind, that they preyed on his health, which together with the fatigue and anxiety he experienced during the trial, probably contributed in *a great degree* to hasten that event, which deprived the world of his usefulness.

"Perhaps the history of our country since the American Revolution, does not record a more flagrant instance of intolerance, or wanton spirit of religious *persecution;* a more daring infringement of the rights of a religious denomination, or a more culpable act of *injustice* to an individual, under the sanction of law, than the above mentioned case.

"If one baptist minister can be seized and dragged before a court, and subjected to all the delay, inconvenience, fatigue and expense of a trial, and finally without law or evidence *degraded*, and *deprived of an important privilege*, he may likewise be deprived of *other rights and privileges*, and be finally *silenced* and *forbidden to preach*. Are not all the ministers of the baptist denomination liable to share the same fate? where is their security? where shall they obtain redress? Is it from an impartial jury composed of judicious men, selected from the various religious denominations? Mr. Atwell had the benefit of a trial by jury, who at first returned a verdict in his favor, which was refused by the court; and several of the jurors being found too honest and independent to sacrifice their opinions to the will of the court, they were dismissed to make room for another more subservient to their views. No redress then can be expected from this quarter. In vain shall they look to a constitution that guarantees equal ci-

vil and religious rights to every citizen. Unfortunately no such instrument exists in Connecticut: her citizens are completely in the power of an omnipotent legislature, the professed guardians of the rights of the people; and there the voice of the Baptist has no influence; his grievances are never heard but with disdain. Although nearly one third of the population of this state are baptists, they have no share in the offices of the state; no judges, no sheriffs, not even a justice of the peace; and the judges that compose our courts are the mere annual creatures of the legislature, and must always be completely subservient to their views. Are not the baptists, then, completely in the power of their oppressors? whose tender mercies are cruelties; and whose supercilious haughtiness, hypocricy, and fantastical vanity have done more to injure the cause of true religion in America than all others."

We shall now give Mr. Atwell's journal in his own words until within a few days of his last illness.

"Sunday, January 2d, preached on Psalms 89, 19; and the Father of mercies was bountiful to me in assistance in preaching.

"Saturday, 8th, rode to Somers and preached a funeral sermon.

"Sunday, 9th, preached in Longmeadow on Luke 16, 16, 17, afterwards broke

bread to the branch of the church there.

"Friday, 14th, preached in Stafford on Gen. 45, 24, my mind was enlarged and happy.

"Sunday, 16th, a very severe snow atorm, but a few people gathered, and I preached to them from John 7, 46.

"Sunday, 23d, preached in Longmeadow from 2 Tim. 2, 19, 20, 21, with some enlargement of mind and comfort of soul. In the evening rode to Somers, and preached on Eph. 3, 8, with a good degree of comfort in mind.

"Sunday, 30th, preached on Dan. 6, 5, with some enlargement and consolation.

"Sunday, February 6th, preached in Longmeadow on Rev. 4, 6, 7, with some consolation of mind. Many trials attend me in this world, and what is to take place next I know not.

"Sunday, 13th, preached on 1 Cor. 2, 14, with, I think, some satisfaction of soul and enlargement of mind. I hardly can tell how I can preach under the persecutions I meet with. O! God grant me grace to endure unto the end.

"Monday, 14th, and tuesday, 15th, visited and prayed with sick people.

"Wednesday, 16th, preached in Suffield in the evening on Titus 2, 11, 12.

"Thursday, 17th, rode to Granby and preached a funeral sermon on Rev. 2, 17.

"Friday, 18th, in returning my horse broke through the ice, and I was much

wet, but providentially escaped without injury.

"Saturday, 19th, visited and prayed with three sick persons.

"Sunday, 20th, in Longmeadow, preached on 1 Tim. 4, 8, with a good degree of freedom in mind.

"Tuesday, 22d, preached a funeral sermon on 2 Tim. 4, 7, 8, with freedom of mind.

"Sunday, 27th, in Longmeadow, preached a funeral sermon on Matt. 24, 44, with liberty; this was a solemn day indeed.

"Monday, 28th, and tuesday, March 1st, spent in visiting the people.

"Friday, 4th, visited and prayed with a sick friend.

"Sunday, 6th, preached on Dan. 2, 34, 35, not so much freedom as usual, but something, I think, of God's Spirit to help.

"Sunday, 13th, preached on Job. 27, 8.

"Wednesday, 16th, visited and prayed with a sick person, afterwards visited a family that had in a sudden manner lost a child.

"Thursday, 17th, attended a funeral, and prayed with the assembly on the solemn occasion.

"Friday, 18th, visited a family in mournful circumstances, through the death of a useful member.

"Sunday, 20th, preached in Longmeadow on Job 3, 25, 26, my mind was much

enlarged on the important subject. In the evening on 1 John 5, 10, 11, with great enlargement and comfort of mind.

"Tuesday, 22d, preached a funeral sermon in Somers on Rev. 6, 17, with great freedom and comfort of mind. After preaching visited and prayed with a sick man.

"Saturday, 26th, visited and prayed with a sick person."

As it was said of David that his prayers were ended; so now it must be said of Mr. Atwell, his journal is closed.

Sunday, 27th, he went to the meeting house in Enfield, but an express coming, he immediatly went to Somers to visit Mr. S. Kimbal, who was near his end; in the evening he visited and prayed with capt. S. Morgan, who was dying; he then rode home.

On monday he went to Hartford on account of the foregoing prossecution.

On wednesday he rode to Somers to visit Mr. Kembal, and in the evening in a part of Enfield, at the house of Mr. Isaiah Allen's he preached his last Sermon. He had uncommon assistance in speaking, and the power of God appeared to accompany the word. Several of his last discourses were noticed by many as being uncommonly pathetic. It was very evident that his Lord and Master helped him to close his ministry with power.

On thursday he visited Mr. Kembal a-

gain, who died this day. In the afternoon maj. V. Hall was taken with the fever and died in the evening, Mr. Atwell was with him in his last moments, and found himself uncommonly affected with the smell of the fever.

On friday he went home and rode to W. H. Point to make some preparation for maj. Hall's funeral. He was some unwell through the day, and about midnight he was taken with violent distress, and the fever had seized on him. He languished eight days, and on sunday, April 10th, at about eleven o'clock he fell asleep in Jesus, aged forty seven years, seven months, and two days.

It was his prevailing opinion from the commencemet of this sickness that he should not recover, and the trials of his soul were exquisitely racking. He was very low in the first stages of his fever; which had two causes for its proving fatal, the first was the effect produced by the ungodly prossecution against him for marrying, the trial having recently caused him important concern, and unremitting fatigue; the other was his old constitutional complaint. He had the best of medical assistance, and the most careful attention, in every respect, he received from an affectionate family, and a numerous circle of friends; and, even those whose connections in life were with his unfeeling enemies, now appeared to be effected with his situ-

ation, and shewed kindness and a tender regard for him.

His trials of mind for the cause of truth was next to insupportable by him, with all the strength which he possessed from heaven. Having so recently beheld in the turn of his trial, the antichristian spirit of persecution against the baptists, his soul bleed for Zion's sake. Before this he could not have believed that in Connecticut, a people so numerous and respectable as the baptists, should feel in this enlightened age, the scourge of the red dragon, but it was as obvious as the most conspicuous facts, that the man of sin had not lost his being in that part of this country. A lover of God and the rights of man, could but realize with the keenest regret such a view as this. His people had engaged his warmest affections and care, he knew their want of his services, and it was next to impossible for him to endure the idea of parting with them. In the next place his family, with all their dependance on him under God, arose before him, and his anxiety for them was inconceivably great. These, with the concerns of his own soul, for a number of days sunk him into such exercises of mind, as to cause him almost to forget the disorder of his body, through the superior distress of his soul. But, before his departure, he arose above his troubles, and his soul was unspeakably happy in his God and Savior.

His family and friends were not apprehensive of his approaching end, until a short time before his death; but when it was apparent that the time of his departure was nigh at hand, the effect on those around him, is more easy to be conceived than expressed. The attention which he and his family received from the Rev. Mr. Prudden, and his tender care for them, merit the warmest acknowledgements. But, all could not prevail, his bounds were set, his time was come, and in the triumphs of faith, he left the vineyard of his Master below, for the crown of glory laid up for him in heaven. Pleasing is the hope we possess, that our loss is his gain. We mourn our lack of his faithful service in love; while, as we trust, he now is where sorrow and trouble can never come. He now is beyond the reach of the shafts of the enemy, where his persecutors no more can afflict him.

Tuesday, 12th, his remains were carried to the presbyterian meeting house, and a solemn discourse was delivered by elder J. Wightman of Westspringfield, to a crowded and much affected assembly. His body was then consigned to its mother earth with masonic honors.

Thus the reader has seen the end of one of the most useful ministers of the gospel. But a few have lived whose labors were equally great with his, and who died so highly beloved.

He left a numerous family to lament his death, but Mrs. Atwell had but a short time to mourn in this world the irreparable loss of one of the best of husbands: immediately after Mr. Atwell died, she was unwell, but attended the funeral; and this evening she sunk under trouble and sickness. She continued until monday the 18th, when she followed her departed companion to the scenes of eternity. Mrs. Atwell was a person of superior christian experience, and understanding of the doctrine of Christ. For a number of years she was a great ornament in the church militant; and ever was an uncommon blessing to her husband in the arduous discharge of the duties of his office.

Thus, in the space of eight days, nine children were deprived of the tenderest parents, no more to experience the great blessing of parental goodness. But, God is unchangably the father of the fatherless; and this numerous family are all well provided for.

ATWELL is gone, no more shall we
With him those blissful seasons see,
Which once his pleasing presence gave—
Alas! he moulders in the grave.

How precious is the memory of
His generous heart, and constant love;
His soul was cheerful, also grave—
Alas! he moulders in the grave.

His care for his attentive flock,
Through life his great attention took;
To feed them, freely all he gave —
Alas! he moulders in the grave.

The all-important cause of Christ,
Forever in his soul was high'st;
What toils for Jesus he could brave —
Alas! he moulders in the grave.

But now his sufferings all are o'er;
His enemies may rage no more;
Eternal rest his soul shall have —
Alas! he moulders in the grave.

But death the last of every foe,
Complete destruction soon shall know,
And God's dear people all shall have
Immortal triumphs o'er the grave.

FINIS.